

# The Middlebury Campus

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## Climate Action Group Reunites

By Viviana Altamirano

On Jan. 17, alumni from the Sunday Night Group (SNG) and 350.org held a ten-year anniversary reunion for the conference "What Works? New Strategies for a Melting Planet." SNG is Middlebury's first environmental activism group, and 350.org is the largest international campaign for climate action.

Ten years ago, this conference helped establish SNG. Three years later, SNG alumni and Scholar in Residence in Environmental Studies Bill McKibben co-founded 350.org. In celebration of the conference's 10-year anniversary, alumni returned to campus to reflect on what has worked and to generate new ideas for the local and global climate movement.

Co-organizers Jeannie Bartlett '15, Hannah Bristol '14.5 and Teddy Smyth '15 opened the event. Alumni shared their stories and held roundtable discussions.

Executive Director at 350.

org May Boeve '06.5 reflected on SNG's founding in 2005.

"We were beginning to experiment on campus like lowering the thermostats in dorms and changing light bulbs. But then we marched in Montreal with 40,000 people, the largest climate demonstration that had ever happened up to that point. And we got this infusion of energy we brought back to Middlebury," Boeve said.

"It's one of the most wonderful feelings to be back here with all of you in this community and to remember that the relationship between Middlebury and the world beyond Middlebury is so alive," she added.

According to Boeve, the capstone of this was the People's Climate March in September, the largest to have ever occurred.

"If history is any guide, there will be other, larger marches because we need every large climate march we can get. We are in a race against time," she said.



RACHEL FRANK

On Jan. 17, alumni from 350.org, the largest international campaign for climate action, and SNG, the College's first environmental group gathered for "What Works? New Strategies for a Melting Planet."

In addition to sharing their experiences, the alumni also discussed their thoughts on current events.

U.S. Policy Director at 350.org Jason Kowalski '07 spoke about

SEE REUNION, PAGE 2

## MCSE Symposium Covers Global Health

By Ellie Reinhardt

The Middlebury Center for Social Entrepreneurship (MCSE) will bring together members of the College community, the town of Middlebury and key players in the world of public health to discuss how social entrepreneurs can impact and inspire global health at its fourth annual symposium this week. The symposium, "Social Entrepreneurship and the Future of Global Health," will be held starting today through Jan. 24.

Highlights of the symposium are two keynote speakers, Jennifer Staple-Clark and Dr. Mitch Besser, who will both receive the 2015 MCSE Vision Awards, a number of workshops, roundtable discussions and the College's first hackathon.

Associate Director of MCSE Heather Neuwirth has been a leader in organizing the MCSE symposiums for the past four years. She said that global health was chosen as the topic for this year's symposium because "interest in global health is growing as we realize that health is inextricably linked to all of our biggest global challenges."

She also referenced MCSE's connection to global health on campus through their relationship to the Global Health minor and the College's GlobeMed chapter.

Staple-Clark and Besser will both offer a unique perspective to how global health and social entrepreneurship are and should be related. Tonight Staple-Clark, along with Assistant Professor of Sociology and Anthropology Svea Closser and two students, will engage in a

discussion titled "Responsible Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship."

Staple-Clark is the founder and CEO of Unite for Sight, a non-profit organization that works to eliminate barriers between patients and accessing the care they need. The organization focuses on eye care and partners with local eye clinics to identify community-specific issues that make receiving effective eye care for patients living in extreme poverty especially difficult.

Staple-Clark founded the organization in her dorm room during her sophomore year at Yale University and works around the world to help inspire students in social entrepreneurship.

"One of our goals at the CSE is to bring in speakers that share a relatable pathway for our students and community," said Neuwirth. "[Staple-Clark]...saw an opportunity as a student, has iterated and taken risks."

Tomorrow night, Besser will participate in a conversation with Coordinator of Global Health Programs Pamela Berenbaum. Besser founded an organization, mothers2mothers, after recognizing a lack of education and support for mothers suffering from HIV/AIDS while working at the University of Cape Town's Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in South Africa.

His organization employs mothers already suffering from HIV/AIDS to be Mentor Mothers and work alongside doctors and nurses to help educate and support future mothers with or without HIV.

"[Besser] is someone who

SEE SYMPOSIUM, PAGE 3

## College Celebrates Alumni of Color

By Ben Hawthorne

Alumni gathered on campus last weekend for the first Alumni of Color Weekend in almost 10 years. Students and alumni socialized and discussed the history of student-of-color organizations on campus, as well as the future of students of color on campus.

They shared similar grievances about the persistence of micro-aggressions towards minorities and the failure of many students to recognize their privilege.

The event, which was previously organized by the administration, this year was the responsibility of Director of Alumni and Parent Programs Ian McCray.

The events for the weekend in-

cluded several social events such as receptions, meals, a movie screening and a party.

One concern raised frequently over the course of the weekend was the perception of the administration's ignorance of discrimination on campus. Attendees said that the administration has and continues to "sweep discrimination under the rug" to keep up the College's image by pretending that racism is not an issue on campus.

"I don't personally think that things are getting better [for students of color], as a lot of incidents have happened this year, and the administration isn't even trying to address them," Shuba

Maniram '17 said.

Another concern raised was the absence of consequences for discrimination beyond a stern talking-to from resident assistants or commons deans. An unregistered "white privilege party" that was held on campus in 2014 drew consistent negative responses from students and alumni, not just because of its racist theme but also because the organizers of the party received no punishment from the administration.

"Students need to learn that there are consequences to discrimination in the real world," alumna Shantá Lindo '10 said. "I

SEE ALUMNI, PAGE 2



Students and alumni gathered to discuss the history of cultural organizations at the College.



SHUMLIN'S SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE PROGRAM DIES PAGE 5



RECAP OF THURSDAY'S PROJECT RESILIENCE PAGES 11



TERM MUSICAL CELEBRATES 10 YEARS PAGE 16



By Claire Treesh

The Student Government Association (SGA) has started off the new year with a number of new ideas and movements during their meetings on Sunday Jan. 11 and Sunday Jan. 18.

At the first meeting of 2015 the SGA met to discuss a variety of ongoing projects.

The SGA confirmed Nan Philip '16.5 was confirmed as the SGA director of publicity, succeeding Robin Loewald '16 as she goes abroad this winter term and spring semester.

Next, Chief of Staff Danny Zhang '15 presented an update on the Student Life Survey, which launched on Wednesday Jan. 14 and will remain open until Jan. 30, the last day of winter term classes. Every student who fills out the survey has the chance to win prizes, including Amazon gift cards, bookstore gift cards and movie tickets, among others. As of Jan. 18, the SGA received nearly 700 respondents, which Zhang considered good progress.

Vice President for Communications and Marketing Bill Burger then gave a presentation on new student ID card designs. The old design and quality caused issues such as fading, breaking and not being accepted as a legitimate ID abroad.

In an effort to make the IDs more functional, the College will redesign them by including an expiration date, more personal information on the back and laminating them during production. The SGA approached students for ideas and feedback on the changes. The new cards will be issued to the incoming class of 2018.5 and possibly all students later in the future.

At the second meeting on Jan. 18, the SGA voted on an act that was originally proposed at the final meeting of the fall term on Dec. 7. The act, sponsored by Community Council co-Chair Ben Bogin '15, seeks to ease individual party registration. The concern behind the act is that individuals do not want the financial responsibility of hosting a party because of the potential damages.

The act allows the SGA to help some individuals pay for damages that the host made attempts to avoid. The appeals committee will be responsible for deciding how much the individual is responsible for based on their financial ability and the extent to which they tried to prevent the damage. The SGA voted on the act and it passed unanimously.

## Environmental Group Reunion

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fighting the Keystone Pipeline.

"One cool thing coming back to Middlebury is seeing the carbon neutrality goal. That was a campaign we were pushing [when I was a student here]. Now it's something the campus has bought into," Kowalski said.

"Just last week I had 30 different senator staffers asking for talking points. We have produced a sea change with this campaign that is really similar with what's happened with carbon neutrality on this campus. We started on the margin, and we've dragged the mainstream to our position. Bold ideas can have power in Washington, and that to me is what carbon neutrality and SNG is all about, and that to me is what the keystone campaign is all about. That's what I'm really excited about."

The manner in which language and psychology influence how people view climate change interested Hilary Platt '12.5, an environmental policy and psychology major.

"A study found that the most effective strategy was to say, 'Save energy in your home; your neighbors are saving energy too.' This study led to [the founding of] a company called Opower, where I am working today...we are using behavioral science to impact the way people use power in their homes and reduce consumption. We saved enough energy to take all the homes in Hawaii and Alaska off the grid for a year. Together we're making a big impact on the climate," Platt said.

Alumni reflected on their efforts to have fair-trade coffee available in the dining halls by reducing food waste and saving money.

"The path to victory is often not what you expect. People are beginning to do that with climate change. People thought that we would get one big climate bill out of Congress and the world will be saved. Clearly that was never going to happen," said Communications Director at 350.org Jamie Henn '07.

He continued, "The solution is going to be diverse and come from different directions, it's not one beautiful linear from problem to solution. The media doesn't get it and politicians can't track it, but I think that's part of our generation. There's innovation out there and people are beginning to realize that we can piece it together."

He added: "What I'm excited about is how do you tell that story. It's a harder story to tell but it's a more exciting story and it will require more people telling it, not just one voice."

Henn explained the mechanics of getting a message out.

"One of the things we've learned is that if you've set up in the right way, what you're really doing is finding many different messengers who can then speak to their community in a way they already know how. We can expand the messenger base and find people that can speak to their own communities about climate change and provide resources to support them," Henn

said.

Greta Neubauer '14.5 spoke on how the movement embodies a lot of historical privilege.

"One thing we've been thinking a lot about in the divestment movement is with Black Lives Matter happening, and how we can not just go to rallies and then come back to our own movement and do our work independently, but really see those [efforts] as being connected. We can be proud of being climate activists but also do the work of being allies," Neubauer said.

A roundtable group suggested creating a map linking different movements such as social inequality and racial inequality with current activism and demonstrating it in a visual manner.

Faculty Director of the Center for Social Entrepreneurship (CSE) and Professor of Economics Jon Isham expressed his enthusiasm for seeing alumni interact with current students.

"What I can do as a faculty member is provide a certain kind of support just by encouraging them to try things and not get frustrated. But the best part of SNG is not only that it's 100% student conceived, but it remains 100% student run. And that's exactly one of the many reasons it's so effective. I guarantee you some of these ideas will see fruition," Isham said.

"Our goal was for current and past SNG students to meet each other and create these connections so we can continue to share ideas across generations and different places in our lives," concluded Bartlett.

## Funding for Bunker Events Approved

By Caroline Jashke

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz presented the Student Government Association (SGA) with \$10,000 for student-hosted events in the Bunker at the beginning of Winter Term. The funding, which will come from Liebowitz's discretionary fund, will be available for events throughout J-term and the spring semester.

Located in the basement of the Free-man International Center, the Bunker has served as a space for concerts and dance parties. However, the space was once home to a party scene frequently shut down by Public Safety.

"The funding is a good chance to reboot the space in a more positive light. I think the money that President Liebowitz has set aside shows that he has a commitment to opening up more space for social activities," SGA President Taylor Custer '15 said.

This latest step resulted from the forum to discuss social issues which Liebowitz held in November. One complaint raised at the forum was a lack of social op-

tions, culminating in a request for a party initiative fund for student use.

Liebowitz responded, "You got it. My commitment is there."

Ilana Gratch '16.5, Treasurer of the SGA, followed up on this commitment by meeting with Liebowitz and providing the main push for funding. Custer said the SGA felt that "allocating more money towards social life was a very good tangible thing to happen directly as a result of the social life forum."

The new funding, which will be used to cover the security costs surrounding Bunker events, provides individual students or groups of students with the opportunity to create and host events. In order to receive funding, students must provide a rough idea of the number of attendees and an event schedule. All details must be submitted to the student activities office three weeks before the event.

As long as the request is both reasonable and appealing to other students, it will most likely be approved. David Kloepfer, Student Activities, Programs, and Events Manager, will oversee the Bunker and can help walk students through event

planning.

Once the event receives approval, the hosts will receive this funding to cover security. The College typically hires an outside company, Green Mountain Security, for Bunker parties.

Green Mountain Security funnels the crowd in safely and ensures that the party keeps from getting out of hand. Their presence also helps decrease Public Safety's involvement to only periodic check-ins.

Custer elaborated on the role that students will need to play going forward.

"I don't think cost is the only or even main barrier to people throwing parties on campus," Custer said.

"Everyone wants to be the person going to the party and not the person throwing the party. The funding will solve a small piece of that for students; it will lower the cost barrier. The whole student body needs to work on reducing the other barriers associated with throwing a party."

In an effort to further encourage stu-

SEE BUNKER, PAGE 3

## Alumni of Color Weekend Raises Issues

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

remember that even when the administration tried to do something, so many kids would talk to their parents, and things would get dropped."

Discussions surrounding the future of students of color at the College centered largely on the Intercultural Center in Carr Hall. The center is intended to provide a place for academic programming, student-group collaboration, activism and awareness. Alumni and students particularly emphasized the need for students of color to have a space that is not just a forum for discussion about race and discrimination on campus but also a space for students of color to socialize and bond.

Roberto Lint Sagarena, current director of the CCSRE and future director of the Intercultural Center and Associate Professor of American Studies, said, "There is a tendency to over-purpose space because [students of color] are so used to having to fight to justify having spaces. There is value in the social."

Alumni expressed fondness for the

former bicultural center, which despite technically also serving as a center for programming, was remembered primarily by alumni as a social space. Although PALANA house is supposed to provide this function, there is concern that students are just using PALANA as a living space while not being active in race-related discussions and activism on campus.

"Some people are treating PALANA as just a living space, as just a bed and a nice room to sleep in," a former PALANA resident said at the meeting held to discuss the new Intercultural Center. "Many students are sick of race discussions, as they don't see any benefit to themselves in them."

Others emphasized that any social space needs to be open to all members of the community.

"It needs to be stressed that intercultural doesn't just mean people of color, it means every culture," Maniram said. "The Intercultural Center needs to stress inclusiveness to avoid intimidating people."

Alumni also discussed the importance of the College's admissions policies at the

discussion about the Intercultural Center, with one alumnus arguing that, "if we can't get enough people, none of what we're doing will mean anything." To this, Director of Admissions Manuel Carballo stressed the importance of making the school's reputation known. However, he did note that progress has been made in admissions, as

the number of applicants who are people of color doubled during his tenure.

"The problem for attracting students of color isn't money, it is that these applicants are the best and the brightest and they have many other good options. Recognition [of the College], not money, is the issue," Carballo said.



IVAN VALLADES

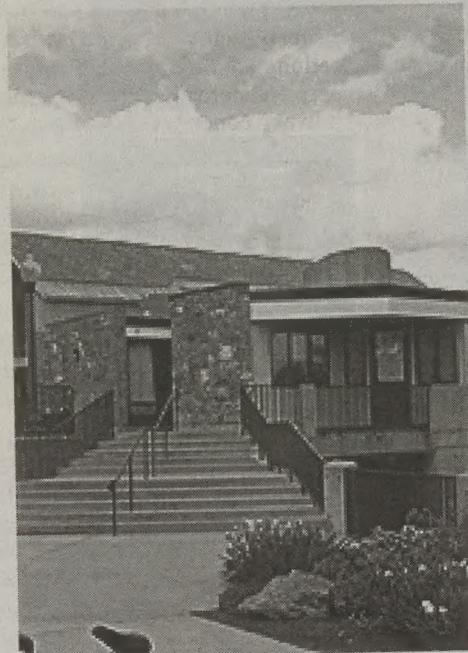
Attendees discuss the possible impact of the College's new Intercultural Center.

# Bunker to Receive Funding

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

dent involvement in the College's social scene, the SGA just passed a new student insurance bill in which they pledge to pay 25% of the total damages to facilities used for registered parties. These payments will not exceed \$400. There will also be a \$5000 insurance fund set aside each academic year which can be made available to cover damages that exceed the \$400 limit. This fund will be used at the discretion of an Appeals Committee. These financial supports are meant to decrease student concern, hopefully leading more students to host events.

Ultimately, it will be up to students in the next couple of months to determine how the Bunker funding is used. Whether or not these funds become a permanent fixture of the College's social life environment will be up to both the next SGA President and recently appointed President-elect Laurie L. Patton.



COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

The Bunker will soon see new events.

# MCSE Symposium on Global Health

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

had an idea and stepped outside of his regular role and now it's a whole organization doing great work," said Berenbaum.

She continued, "I will be asking him a lot of questions about his process; how he went from being a regular guy from New Jersey to being an entrepreneur, an innovator and a change maker...I'm hoping that the audience will be inspired and maybe even entertained but most importantly, comforted by the idea that anybody can do this and really take away that inspiration."

Berenbaum, a member of both the College community and the global health community, emphasized the constant need for innovation in global health.

"I would like to see the [global health] field embrace change and embrace improvement no matter what form it's in... It's important to criticize what we do and have a skeptical eye but I would like to see the doors left wide open for any ideas people have with any method," she said.

The symposium will also feature a number of events where attendees will be encouraged to participate, including four workshops and the MiddHackathon.

Two of the workshops this year will use Skype to engage with active members in the global health field. The workshops will be with Jennifer Foth '08, a program coordinator at Vaccines at Clinton Health Access Initiative from Uganda and two Mentor Mothers from mothers2mothers, Queen and Nozi, who will be speaking from South Africa.

"I don't think it would be fair to discuss global health without people who are working in global health in developing environments so it makes all the sense to bring in these voices and to have our community engage with them," said CSE Program and Outreach Associate Mustafa Babak.

As the College's first hackathon, it will introduce a new kind of collaboration as students, faculty, staff and community members work to create a PSA focused on solving some of the most pressing issues in the global health world. A panel of judges will decide on the best PSA, which will then be translated into all of the languages offered by the College and released across a number of media forums.

Babak, who helped to organize the MiddHackathon, said, "A Hackathon is a tremendous tool to curate talents and capabilities towards solving a very specific challenge. I think the hackathon itself can be a tool around the world to bring in these experts to solve a challenging problem. For us, we are offering this tool at this symposium because we want to inspire our students at the College to get them familiar with this concept."

Organizers of the symposium emphasized the importance of collaboration and inspiration as key tools for creating change.

Jon Isham, professor of economics and director of MCSE, said, "We hope that the symposium helps our attendees to reflect on the role they can play in effecting social change, connect with others, analyze selected global health challenges of our time, and engage in solution building."

Berenbaum also spoke to the importance of this symposium. "I'm hoping that the symposium draws in a crowd of people that aren't just the global health students on campus because global health is completely inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary," she said. "I'm hoping they come and recognize that something like innovation or entrepreneurship or social change really requires a large skill set and any one person doesn't need to have all the skills but you need to recognize who else you might need to pull in to help you."

## CSE Fourth Annual Symposium Calendar

January 22 - 24, 2015

22 Thursday	23 Friday	24 Saturday
<p>6:00 pm Student and Community Activity Showcase   McCullough Student Center</p> <p>7:00 pm Social Entrepreneurship Talk by Jennifer Staple Clark   Wilson Hall, McCullough Student Center</p>	<p>8:30 am Breakfast &amp; Talk by Professor Jonathan Isham   Wilson Hall, McCullough Social Space</p> <p>9:00 am Opening World Café Session   Wilson Hall, McCullough Social Space</p> <p>10:00 am Workshop Sessions with Global Health Innovators   McCullough, Axinn and MiddCORE House</p> <p>1:30 pm MiddHackathon   Wilson Hall, McCullough Social Space</p> <p>7:00 pm Talk by Mitch Besser founder of mothers2mothers   Wilson Hall, McCullough Social Space</p>	<p>9:30 am Convening of MiddHackathon Challenge Teams   Wilson Hall, McCullough Social Space</p> <p>1:00 pm MiddHackathon Presentation   Wilson Hall, McCullough Social Space</p>

### Workshops

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Charlie MacCormack '63, Executive-in-Residence at Middlebury College | MiddCORE House

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Dr. Johana "Jody" Kashiwa Brakeley, M.D., F.A.A.P., Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics | McCullough Social Space

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Jennifer Foth '08, Program Coordinator, Vaccines at Clinton Health Access Initiative from Uganda via Skype | 103 Axinn

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Queen and Nozi, Mentor Mothers from mothers2mothers from South Africa via Skype | 109 Axinn

DESIGN BY DAISY WILLIAMSON

## MIDDLEBURY'S 92ND WINTER CARNIVAL!

PACKAGES ARE ON SALE NOW, \$25 WITHOUT THE SHIRT, \$35 WITH THE SHIRT. LOOK FOR THE DESIGNS ON THE BOX OFFICE WEBSITE AND OUR MCAB FACEBOOK PAGE (GO/MCAB).

### WEDNESDAY 02/11:

Carnival Kick-Off Dinner in Proctor and Ross

### FRIDAY 02/13:

Ski Races at the Snow Bowl Northern Lights, 2pm, Voter Lawn

Snacks and hot chocolate in Crossroads with screenings of historical carnival film footage —time to be announced

Carnival Concert — 9pm, McCullough Social Space, musicians to be announced soon!

### SUNDAY 02/15:

Carnival Finale Brunch in Proctor and Ross

Ice Show: 2pm, Kenyon

### THURSDAY 02/12:

Bonfire (8-10pm) & Fireworks (9pm), with hot chocolate at the bonfire

Comedian: Jay Larson, 9:30pm, McCullough Social Space

### SATURDAY 02/14:

Ski Races at the Snow Bowl

Hot Chocolate Bar — all toppings imaginable for some hot chocolate after getting back from the bowl! 3pm, Crossroads Cafe

Ice Show: 2pm, Kenyon Winter Ball, featuring DJ Clinton Sparks, a Photo

Booth, awesome food catered by the grille, and a beer garden for 21+ 10pm-2am, Nelson

## MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

### Trivia

There will be pub night for 21+ students with 2 forms of ID.

THURSDAY AT 9 PM IN CROSSROADS CAFE

### Free Friday Film

Big Hero 6

FRIDAY AT 6 & 9 PM IN DANA AUDITORIUM

### Zumba

Come dance the calories away in Wilson Hall (formerly the Social Space).

SUNDAY AT 4-5 PM

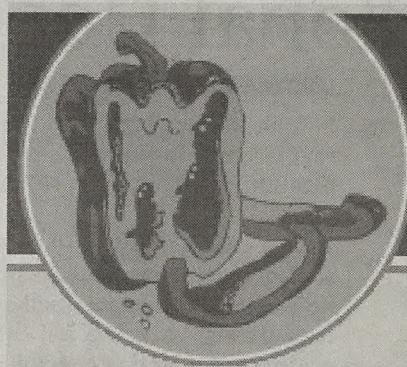


### The Avant-Garde Dogs

Saturday, January 24 | 9:30 p.m.

Bleeding rock guitars, harmony vocals and world-music percussion, the Avant-Garde Dogs play danceable music by extraordinary songwriters — Ry Cooder, Lucinda Williams, John Hiatt, Jackson Browne, the Rolling Stones and more. All ages welcome! Beer and wine available for 21+ with 2 forms of ID.

DESIGN BY JULIA HATHAWAY



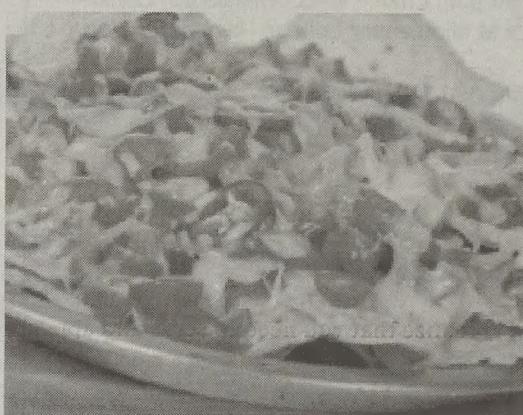
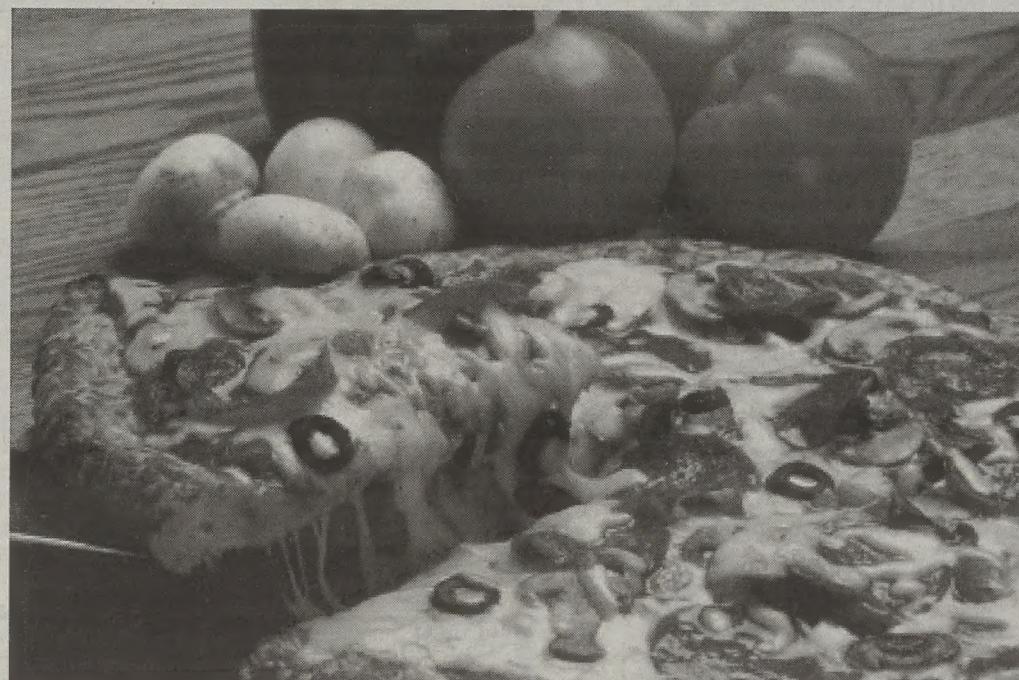
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#### Trivia Night

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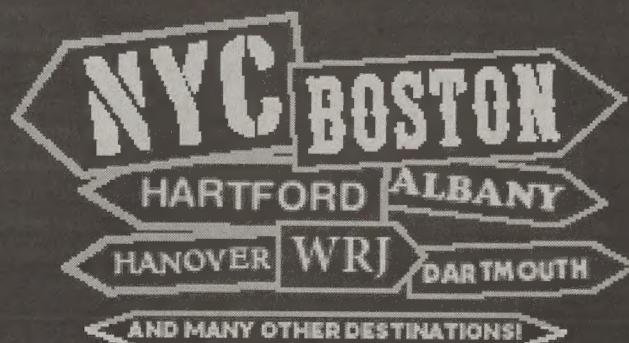
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# Cursive Coffee Closes its Doors

By Annie Grayer

On Wednesday, Jan. 14, Cursive Coffee posted on its Facebook page that it will close its doors on Saturday, February 21. Located at 58 Main Street, this progressive espresso bar will shut down after just eight months after its opening on Friday, June 13.

Jim Osborn and Sam Clifton, who met working at Uncommon Grounds, co-founded Cursive Coffee in June 2013. After running a successful pop-up espresso bar inside of Barge Canal Market, an antique shop in Burlington, the team was ready to expand their business.

"What sincerely makes our product unique is a relentless emphasis on transparent quality," Jim Osborn said. "We buy exceptional coffee, roast it with neurotic affection, and do our best to ensure that its flavor profile evokes what makes it inherently special and absolutely delicious."

With their success building, Cursive Coffee caught the attention of Anne Barakat, a Middlebury-based architect and designer, who launched Boo + Roxy, a design collaborative. Together, the two companies opened their Main Street storefront, combining a collaborative workspace with an artisanal espresso bar.

Alexis Hughes '17.5 expressed her appreciation for the coffee shop. "I like Cursive Coffee because it is an atmosphere that isn't present in any other part of Middlebury – this new-age kind of coffee shop that's simple and quiet, reminiscent of some of my favorite places back home."

Sue Stroud-Spyers, a Middlebury resident who works at the local library and at Sweet Cecily, voiced a different sentiment. "When Cursive Coffee opened I wanted to try it out. I went twice, but it was closed each time I went, even



Cursive Coffee, known for their creative window display, closed after just eight months.

though it was during the middle of business hours. Carol's has always been more convenient for me, so I just went back to my normal routine and sort of forgot about it."

Despite its initial promise, Cursive Coffee will be closing its doors because its owners were unable to negotiate reasonable terms for the renewal of their

lease. Its closing sparks questions about the town of Middlebury's ability to create lasting upward mobility for its local businesses.

Jim Osborn describes the uphill battle for small businesses as "very unpoetic." He suggested, "it's the sort of situation that forces many businesses to vacate their storefronts prematurely. Increasing expenses at a rate that is grossly disproportionate to rate of growth stymies financial sustainability before it has an earnest chance to be assessed for future viability."

Nancie Dunn, owner of Sweet Cecily, whose store has been in business on Main Street for 28 years, believes she knows what is required for a local business to succeed in Middlebury.

"I think in general you have to know your market and understand the town," Dunn said. "You have to have a good product mix and be on top of the vibe of

the town. You have to know where you are and what the community is like, and realize that you need to serve and appeal to a mix of locals, tourists, and college-aged students."

Since announcing the store's closing, Osborn has had time to reflect on the store's identity and possibly what went wrong.

***"We have always been aware and unapologetic about our oddities: lack of food, lack of drip coffee, lack of tea, lack of wi-fi, lack of ample seating...lack of what we perceive to be frivolous appeasements to arbitrary conceptions of what a cafe needs to contain."***

**JIM OSBORN**  
OWNER OF CURSIVE COFFEE

sure. Either way, they were fundamental to our identity."

Cursive Coffee's unique identity only targeted a niche market, and although Cursive Coffee did create a particular, dedicated following, its expensive prices and uncompromising style did not accommodate the larger community.



Cursive Coffee received multiple complaints.



## DITCHING THE DINING HALL

By Harry Cramer

Ask most Middlebury students for their favorite local restaurant in Middlebury, and you'd likely hear about Sabai Sabai, Flatbread Pizza, or Storm Cafe, to name a few. I'd like to buck that trend, and suggest that the place to eat in Middlebury is the truly underappreciated Noonie's Deli.

Noonie's, located behind Marble Works in downtown Middlebury at 137 Maple Street, serves soups, salads, and a variety of delicious signature sandwiches that every Middlebury student should try before they graduate. The sandwiches are under ten dollars, but your taste buds will never know.

Take the Tyrion Lannister, for example. Grilled chicken and bacon serve as the meaty base, which is then set ablaze with jalapeno and banana peppers and spicy buffalo dressing. Melted cheddar cheese and freshly cut avocado extinguish the flames, and a slice of tomato and leaf of lettuce round out the dish. For under eight dollars, it's truly a remarkable dish.

Not into hot foods? Try the tamer Cape Codder: Turkey, sliced apples, tomato, red onion, lettuce, cheddar cheese and cranberry mayonnaise.

"I'd never had a sandwich before until I'd been to Noonie's," Jack Dolan '15 said. "And then I did. And I've never looked back since."

However, what truly sets these sandwiches apart is their bread. Freshly baked every day, Noonie's offers rye, honey-wheat, and whole-wheat bread, which is incredibly soft. In fact, the bread is so soft that these multi-layered sandwiches tend to come apart as you gorge upon them – our chief complaint. Still, considering their flavor and cost this seems like a minor inconvenience at most.

The building itself is unremarkable: Noonies usually has had indoor tables available, most of which are in a loft above the sandwich bar. Customers can also take their food outside to a set of picnic benches.

Many of you reading might be thinking at this point, 'I have been to Noonies a million times. Tell me something I don't know!' How about this: Noonie's delivers. Yup, you heard that right – place your order online at [www.nooniesdeli.com](http://www.nooniesdeli.com) or by phone at (802)-388-0014 and sit back and wait for your delicious food to be rushed over.

Need to feed a few friends? Or are you looking to cater a whole party in Atwater? Not to worry – Noonie's does this too.

"Whether you are catering a corporate meeting, athletic tailgate, social gathering or large conference, Noonie's can help you every step of the way," their website boasts, "from ordering to on-time delivery." Noonie's is capable of catering to parties of up to 300 people.

It's this delivery/catering service that really sets Noonie's apart. Not only is the food delicious, freshly made, and accessible to most Middlebury students, but you won't even have to venture further than the closest major road to pick it up. This is a game changer, especially for impatient and lazy people like myself.

# Shumlin Ends Bid for Single-Payer

By Isabelle Dietz

On Dec. 17th, Governor Peter Shumlin announced that he was terminating his four-year quest to begin single-payer, government-run health care for residents of Vermont. In his press conference, Shumlin emphasized the economic risks that would have accompanied the single-payer plan.

"The cost of that plan turned out to be enormous, requiring an 11.5 percent payroll tax on all Vermont businesses and a public premium assessment of up to 9.5 percent of individual Vermonters' income," Shumlin wrote in his blog. "Further, the phase-in for smaller businesses and those that do not currently offer insurance would add an additional \$500 million to the system. These are tax rates that I cannot responsibly support or urge the Legislature to pass. In my judgment, the potential economic disruption and risks would be too great to small businesses, working families and the state's economy."

Vermont has been involved in a long search for affordable health care. In 2010, the state established a commission to study different forms of health care the state could implement.

Single-payer was chosen as the best option. In 2011, the Vermont state government passed H 202, which established Green Mountain Care. Green Mountain Care was a step towards universal health care for Vermonters. The Green Mountain Care Board was created in the same year to oversee Green Mountain Care's design, and to make sure that it remained a health care system that could serve the needs of every Vermonter.

The state had expected to get \$150 million in federal help to put the Green Mountain Care system in place and an additional \$150 million in Medicaid assistance.

Single-payer health care involves the government paying as an insurer for all health care costs, rather than private insurers. Unlike single-payer health care systems in countries such as Canada or the UK, private insurers in Vermont could still operate, and even offer general health care.

The decision to try single-payer was a controversial one, and many argued from the beginning that a single-payer system would never work. Four days after Shumlin's decision to end the program, Forbes published an article titled "Six Reasons Why Vermont's Single-Payer Health

***I know this is a huge disappointment to many Vermonters... while the time is not right today, we must not give up on healthcare reform.***

GOVERNOR PETER SHUMLIN



COURTESY BURLINGTON FREE PRESS Governor Peter Shumlin announces the end of his push for single-payer - for now.

Plan Was Doomed From the Start." Scott Milne, Shumlin's close opponent in the gubernatorial election, called for abandoning single-payer early on in the election season.

However, the decision to stop the single-payer program has been highly protested. On Thursday, Dec. 18, approximately 80 protesters gathered on the steps of the Statehouse for a demonstration in favor of single-payer health care. The protesters chanted slogans berating Shumlin, such as "which side are you on, Shumlin?" Several demonstrators burned their medical bills. After the rally, the demonstrators delivered a tray of burnt toast to Shumlin's office with a note that said, "Dear Shumlin, your career is toast."

On Jan. 8, more protesters rallied against the demolition of the single-payer system for Vermont, and later sat on the floor of the House and refused to leave. 29 of these protesters were arrested when police tried to close the building at 8 p.m. that night. Nine out of the 29 were charged with resisting arrest.

The Vermont Workers' Center has played a crucial role in organizing the protests, and started a campaign called "Healthcare is a Human Right" in 2008. According to its website, "Since 2008, the Healthcare Is a Human Right Campaign has been organizing to make universal healthcare a reality in Vermont. In 2011, our people's movement succeeded in getting a groundbreaking law passed: Act 48, which commits Vermont to creating a healthcare system providing healthcare

as a public good and ensuring everyone can get the healthcare they need, when they need it."

The campaign members argue that if Vermont can successfully implement publicly financed universal healthcare, other states will follow suit.

An open letter titled "Now is the Time for Green Mountain Care," which urges the government and legislature to stand by Act 48 and the creation of a publicly financed healthcare system under Green Mountain Care, has been signed by over 60 organizations, including Amnesty International.

"I know this is a huge disappointment to many Vermonters," said Shumlin on his blog. "I know because I am one of those Vermonters who has fought for this to succeed. While the time is not right today, we must not give up on health care reform. We are doing transformational things in Vermont when it comes to the way we deliver health care."

Some critics claim that Shumlin's timing in announcing his decision to drop single-payer efforts was politically motivated. However, Shumlin's staff insists that he did not have the complete financial analysis on single-payer's tax increases until after the Nov. 4th election. Shumlin failed to win the majority of votes in the general election, and was only voted in as governor by the Vermont Legislature on Jan 8.

Shumlin has not given up hope for healthcare reform in Vermont, but believes that pushing for single-payer system now, when the state is not yet ready, will jeopardize its future.

"Those reforms can and must continue," he wrote on his blog, "and our success will lay the groundwork for future efforts to implement a publicly-financed health care system. While now is not the right time for Vermont to take such a step, the time will come."

## LOCAL LOWDOWN

22

### Poetry Reading at Carol's

Come on down to Carol's Hungry Mind Café this Thursday to hear Karin Gottshall, author of acclaimed poetry collection *Crocus* (2007), and translator Michael Katz read original poetry. Karin is a visiting lecturer at Middlebury on English and American Literatures. The event is free.

JAN. 22, 7 - 8 P.M.

### Cloth, Paper, Scissors Opening

Cloth, Paper, Scissors ... shoot! Head over to Vergennes to witness the grand opening of the fiber arts exhibit "Cloth, paper, scissors" in the Creative Space Gallery, at 214 Main Street. The exhibit will feature stunning wearable art, baskets, wall-hangings, and other thrilling threaded things. The exhibit runs through March 1st.

JAN. 23, 5-8:00 P.M.

### Bee Lecture in Bixby Library

Word on the street is that Bixby Library is the place to bee. These little critters have created quite the buzz in the news lately, due to a phenomenon known as 'colony collapse disorder.' Come find out more about this devastating problem, as well as the roles of other garden pollinators like hummingbirds and butterflies, at a lecture given by Annie White, a University of Vermont PhD student in ecological landscape design. For more information contact [hardyplantclubvt@gmail.com](mailto:hardyplantclubvt@gmail.com) or email avid amateur apiculturist Nick Orr '15.

JAN. 24, 10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

### Pancake Breakfast in New Haven

Pancakes - known to the French as "crepes" - will be served this Sunday in unhealthy amounts at the New Haven Town Hall. In addition to these fluffy flapjacks, you could also dine on French toast - known to the French as 'toast' - as well as bacon, sausage, home fries, coffee, tea and juice. The proceeds will benefit the New Haven Volunteer Fire Department.

NOV. 25, 7 - 11A.M.

**THE CAMPUS + THE INTERNET**  
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# OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

## 'Fiscal' Education Credits

### EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of the editorial board of *The Middlebury Campus*.

facilities to the new field house. Everyone pays into these things, but only a few of us — athletes — benefit.

The Middlebury Campus

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Students pay \$60,000 to attend Middlebury College each year and, theoretically, these dollars pay for all the credits they will need to graduate. For our varsity teams, these dollars also pay the salaries of our extensive coaching staff. Yet PE credits, whose instructors should be paid with these same dollars, often have fees associated with them, thereby making many of those classes inaccessible to students who are already carrying undue financial burden. That the physical education options laid in front of a student look different depending on that student's financial situation goes against the equality of opportunity Middlebury claims to stand for and further separates athletes and non-athletes.

The average cost of a PE class with an associated fee offered in Spring 2015 is \$116. Moreover, the behind PE courses and which do not is unclear. Archery, a sport that requires equipment that can be damaged or lost, is free, whereas yoga, which theoretically requires no equipment at all, is \$125. Which classes cost money and which don't depends on whether the College has to hire an outside instructor, though it can seem random to people signing up for classes. On top of these

fees, the current BannerWeb registration system of PE courses, with the costs often hidden several clicks into a course description, could cause a student to sign up for a course without realizing they would be paying a fee. Finally, if one misses the drop deadlines for a PE course by just a single day, the fee is still imposed.

Many non-athletes already feel alienated and unwelcome in athletic facilities which, in addition to being an unintelligible maze, feel like they are owned by athletes. We have the same fear for our multi-million dollar, world-class field house, which could easily acquire the same perceptions. Yet we all pay into the same fund and thus deserve equal access to resources.

This divide is not the fault of athletes themselves. Rather, a series of administrative and cultural habits have been passed down through each generation of Middlebury students. Some of these problems are hard to fix. Priority for space necessarily goes to athletes because they need to compete. Yet this makes it hard for students to use certain facilities, requiring them to check times that are always subject to change. The pool is one place that comes to mind, and the field house will likely have the same issue. Athletics should also do more to make the gym a shared space, and as the new field house has its grand opening next week, we should also be thinking about how to make it a facility that is available to everyone — ath-

letes and non-athletes alike.

The PE class fee, however, is an easy place to start. In order to bridge the gap between these two sectors of the student population, the administration should start by paying for PE classes with tuition dollars, including those with outside instructors. Students here should not have to pay any more for what is already an extremely expensive education, particularly when PE credits are among those required to graduate. At the very least, the BannerWeb descriptions, along with the athletics webpage, should make it clear which courses have associated fees and why these courses require costs exceeding \$100 a student. Furthermore, the administration decides what is and is not a physical education; it is important to recognize that people are active in a variety of ways and allow people to learn in those ways that come most naturally to them.

If the goal of the PE credit is, as stated on the website, "to contribute to the physical, social, mental, and emotional well-being of students, enriching their holistic learning experiences and building lifelong habits of good health," access and enjoyment should be the two priorities of the program. Many students already view their PE credits as a chore, including athletes who must seek an additional credit outside of their sport, and concern about the price tag only adds to that dread. Intramural sports, YouPower and student yoga lower the cost barrier for participation in athletics and are good examples of how to allow students to enjoy their physical education. In revisiting the PE credit, we challenge the administration to think through how to make PE accessible, both financially and emotionally, for students to encourage fitness as a lifelong habit.

## It's Actually Just a Game

At Middlebury, we claim to prioritize balance. Students here are not only students, but also actors, journalists, artists, unicurriculars, and of course, athletes. But not all of

these traits are created equal, both in the admissions process and on the Atwater dance floor.

The divide between NARPs and athletes is apparent from orientation.

Athletes are juggling practice with mandatory orientation events, leaving them unable to fully commit to either. In the meantime, the NARPs are hunting for their own community, building friendships around any other shared interest.

The media this fall was full of stories of athletic privilege, from the Ray Rice scandal to the horrifying tales coming out of Florida State. At Middlebury, it is easy to look down from our mountain and pretend these cultural influences don't affect us. We are a DIII school; we hold our athletes to the same academic standards as the rest of our student body. But athletic privilege is still at play on our campus. This piece is less a reflection of the athletes as individuals, and more a matter of the culture we create surrounding athletics, both as an institution and a society, providing behavioral signaling and direct messaging that bolster athletic superiority.

First is the way financial resources are allocated. For all other student activities, student leaders apply for a budget. This money comes from the student activities fee, a separate line item that is explicitly stated in our tuition bill. Other students judge the value that the club offers the student body and allocates funding as they see fit. For athletics, this is different. Teams are given budgets through the athletics department, which all of our tuitions fund, but from which only some of us benefit. This provides state of the art facilities, coaching staff, travel, uniforms, etc. to athletes, but these students rarely need to prove their worth.

We claim to support athletics because of the community they foster, which increases quality of life for the students involved and leads to greater alumni giving after graduation. But club teams, like Rugby and Crew,

apply for budgets with the Finance Committee the same way the *Campus* does, or the Fly Fishing Club, and still manage to create an equally tight knit community. This puts an inequitable institutional priority on the extracurricular activities of some over others. While some clubs fight tooth and nail to get money from the finance committee, athletes sail through year after year with bloated budgets and only the occasional telethon to sponsor their break training trips. In exchange, they are given staff resources that other clubs could never have, with dedicated people on payroll to support them.

We propose sports teams apply for budgets with the rest of student activities. At the end of the day, though, sports are no different — they are very important to the participants, but no more important than anything else. This doesn't mean that these sports shouldn't be funded at their current level, but just that they should be considered of equal value as the myriad other activities we provide. This is about the message we send to our athletes from day one.

Which brings us to our second point. We are a DIII school. Very few, if any, of our current athletes will ever seriously play their sport again after college. And yet for these four years, they are disproportionately valorized and require a tremendous time commitment. Students get tremendous enjoyment out of their sport. They have learned teamwork and leadership, made their best friends and love their varsity Middlebury experience. But let's be honest. You can reap these benefits without dedicating most of your time to your sport. Games are given priority to class. Practice is placed above all other commitments. But nothing else in our time here is given that kind of premium. If other students want to miss class for an extracurricular commitment, they must explain themselves to their professor or just take the unexcused absence. Athletes are given an implicit pass because their professors know the ropes.

Moreover, we have people who are incredible athletes in biking, snowboarding, and a host of other non-college sponsored sports, proving that institutional support is not imperative for athletic success. We also have students who go onto to do incredible things with the skills they learn from their non-athletic extracurriculars. Some students start businesses, or volunteer or learn other valuable lessons that are honestly more applicable to the job market than the ability to

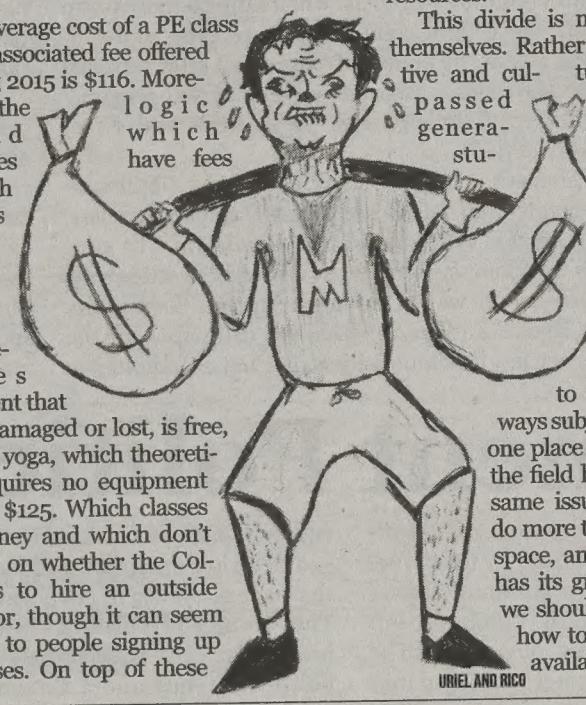
chase a ball. Yet these skills are not given the same premium. Athletes also lose in this system, for they often do not have as much time to invest in other activities about which they are passionate and feel peer-pressure to stick with their teams.

While the time commitment is a problem throughout Division III sports, this is an opportunity for Middlebury to be a leader, even if we take a hit in the standings. We should further limit sports practices and hours on the road for our student-athletes, which would allow them to engage with other parts of the community by making new friends or trying a new club. Both the broader community and the athletes would benefit.

This discrepancy in how we value different skill-sets is evident especially in the admissions process. While coaches are given a voice and athletes are assigned extra points, professors are not given a seat at the table when an incredible writer submits his application or when a young scientist applies with a slew of awards under her belt. Certainly, other extracurriculars also come into play, but shouldn't athletics be in the same category and with the same emphasis? How is it fair that an athlete can know ahead of time that they will probably be accepted while a poet is left biting their nails waiting for letters to go live at 8 a.m.?

We call on the Middlebury community to revisit the premium we give athletics on this campus. We are paying into a system that fetishizes athletics at all levels, from parents who put too much pressure on their kids in Little League to the fans who romanticize professional sports players. Society lets athletes feel like they run the show — it's the most classic high school rom-com plot line. But we should be leaders in pushing us into a world where the kid who loves chemistry is just as celebrated as the kid who loves hockey. We should value all skill-sets and passions equally and see how the effects resonate. It could improve the body image problem that is often discussed. It could lead to a more inclusive party scene. Who knows?

But we must be the first to take the plunge, to rethink the relationship between athletics and academics, and not use alumni donations as a cop-out, because people give to schools when they love the community, not because the sports teams win. We need a cultural shift, and that will take time, but no change happens without a leader, so put us in coach. We're ready to play.



## THURSDAY PAGE

*Josh Claxton '18 is from Summit, N.J.*

The Hebdo attacks in Paris were heinous and unjustifiable. Acts of terrorism are tactless and cowardly because they use murder to convey beliefs. Killing the people you disagree with is not especially difficult. Conversely, it is hard to challenge opinions and address conflicts through speech, writing and protest. The Muslim extremists' actions were irrefutably wrong in many ways; they infringed on freedom of expression, murdered, and kidnapped.

A proper response to the Hebdo satirical cartoon would have perhaps been for a prominent Muslim cleric to write a piece and request that *The Guardian* publish it or make a globally broadcasted speech. In such a response, the cleric could explain how it is incredibly offensive to mock the Prophet Muhammad or even depict him at all. I envision the cleric's response also including a detailed summary of Islam. This would inform the non-Muslim global community and provide context for those ignorant of how Hebdo's satire was offensive. This sort of peaceful, adept reaction to Hebdo's crude humor would convey the same message as the terrorist attacks without murder and terror throughout France.

Extremism is an isolated ideology because it condones extreme acts of violence against those with differing opinions: the infidels. It is a selfish and disgusting mindset. Fanatics believe their principles should be unanimous throughout the world. Instead of striving

to better society, fundamentalists strike down pluralism and proclaim their beliefs as dogma that everyone should agree with. Extremists despise people with other values because they threaten their own egos and certainty.

The crimes we saw in Paris are how fanatics respond to mockery and opposition. To preserve the freedoms and order we cherish, the global community must continue to denounce these egregious acts as it has already. The cartoonists did not die in vain; people around the world are standing in solidarity to condemn the violence and defend freedom of expression. This movement is essential to protect our rights to "the pen" and show how peaceful, tactful actions convey a message much better than brutality.

However, I am wary of what else may come out of the "Je suis Charlie" development. I fear that there will be further subjection and marginalization of Muslims. It begins with the extremists, who really do more harm for their cause than good. People are even more inclined to resent the beliefs of extremism after terrorist attacks. The masses associate anyone of that religion/political party/ethnicity with the radicals and direct animosity at them.

My concern is that "Je suis Charlie" can simultaneously create anti-Islam sentiments. Subconsciously, people will side with Charlie and vilify Islam. The situation is by no means binary but it could unwittingly be interpreted that way. The entire Muslim community will be labeled anti-free speech and ostracized for the actions of a few fundamentalists. It is not unfathomable

because it has been done to other groups throughout history — after WWII there were Japanese internment camps throughout America. It is important to recognize that Islam has nothing to do with what occurred in France, but rather it was a result of twisted ideologues.

Islam is the world's second most popular religion, but probably the most misunderstood and stereotyped. This is a product of terrorism carried out by the outliers within the religion. The majority of Muslims denounce the attacks and, while they found the cartoon offensive, still advocate for free expression. Islam is also not the first or last religion to have heinous and violent extremists wreaking havoc. Islamic fundamentalism today actually resembles the Crusades of the Middle Ages a bit. The Latin Roman Catholic Church sought to seize land from the infidels, proclaiming spiritual immunity, etc. to all who joined the Crusade. Al-Qaeda promised the young Saudi men who carried out 9/11 similar ethereal pleasures. It is not that Islam, Christianity, or any other religion is inherently cruel; it is the monster within certain people.

Given the proliferation of Muslim extremism in the past decade, it would behoove people to learn more about Islam. The stereotypes perpetuated in media can be dispelled by proactively seeking a better understanding of the religion. Only the outliers (good or evil) make it into the headlines so they should not be the basis from which opinions are formed. The "Je suis Charlie" movement is an excellent and appropriate response to the Hebdo events provided that it does not marginalize and isolate the Muslim community.

## Divestment Politics 101

We all know fossil fuels are contributing to Climate Change, but do you know how much power they hold in Washington?

**READER OP-ED**  
*Emma Ronai-Durning '18 is from Salem, Ore.*

*Kate Johnson '18 is from Bedford, Mass.*

*Amosh Neupane '18 is from Queens, N.Y.*

who represent them in Washington by writing letters, fundraising and voting. Unfortunately, the fossil fuel companies have rigged the system such that the normal pathways are blocked to the average citizen. Divesting our money from fossil fuel companies is the one route we have left to limiting their power and sway.

The government awards billions of dollars to fossil fuel companies every year in the forms of tax breaks, lower interest rates and price control incentives. These companies receive between \$10 and \$50 billion every year, much more than the entire budget of the Environmental Protection Agency. Rather than giving this money to companies contributing to climate change, it could be channeled into improving this problem or even alleviating the national debt. The president has, time and time again, brought this matter to the Congress but it has yet to change anything.

According to several polls, the majority of the general public agrees on cutting off fossil fuel subsidies. Nevertheless, our lawmakers continue to provide huge benefits to these companies. Why? Because of the large campaign contributions that fossil fuel companies provide.

Clean energy sources played a huge role in the discussion surrounding the 2008 elections. As a result of concern about dirty energy spending, environmentally friendly actors spent 1.5 times more on ads than fossil fuel companies. By 2012, the situation had completely reversed. This time around, fossil fuel companies spent four times as much as clean energy

groups. The combination of drastically increased spending by fossil fuel companies and the stalling of climate change legislation in Congress left many people feeling powerless. The Climate Reality Project decided not to buy any ads in the 2012 election because they felt any money spent would only be a washed-out waste in comparison to the vast swaths of money fossil fuel companies poured in. Currently, coal, oil, and natural gas corporations are playing a huge role in Congressional decisions by supporting the campaigns of policy-makers aligned with their goals, lobbying in Washington, and running ads all over

**"With fossil fuels controlling the media and the government, and with common forms of political engagement largely unavailable to us, we turn to divestment as our last opportunity to speak."**

the country.

In 2014, the fossil fuel industry injected over \$721 million into electoral races across the country. With so much money to throw around, it is not surprising that they have, more or less, gotten their way in the political realm. Even the engaged citizen cannot dream of swaying the government to the extent that the fossil fuel industry can.

How did this change come to pass, you might ask? Well, in 2010, the *Citizens United v. FEC* court case changed the rules on campaign finance. The Supreme Court ruled that, under citizens' First Amendment right to free speech, corporations are now allowed to engage in the political process by spending exorbitant amounts of money and drowning out public opinion with misleading media content. Despite two previous Supreme Court rulings, which upheld citizens'

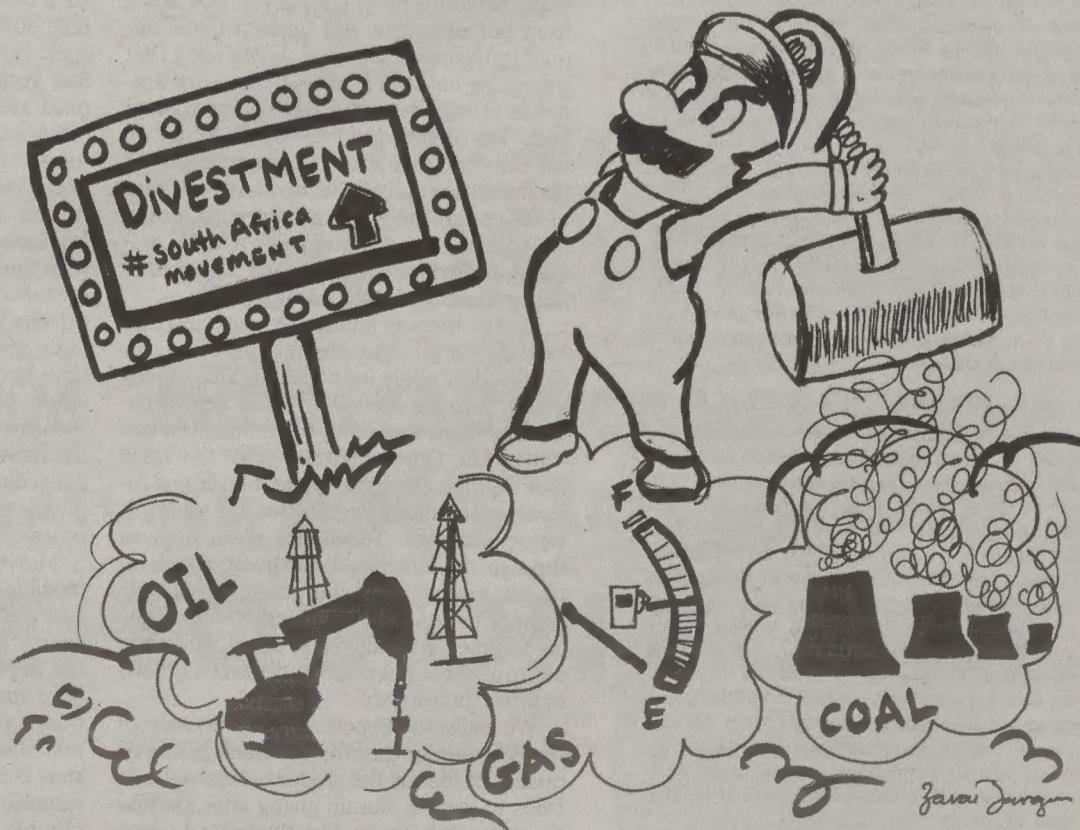
rights over those of corporations, the 5-4 decision opened the floodgates to the past six years of corporate rights. This ironically entitled shift has allowed for an increasingly corrupt political regime and a Citizenry that, even when United, remains disenfranchised in comparison to the pull that fossil fuel companies now possess.

Ads put out by the Natural Gas Alliance and Piedmont Natural Gas promote a heart-warming vision of American families benefiting from natural gas supplying cleaner energy throughout the country. What they neglect to mention is the harmful effects that fracking has on communities surrounding drill sites, and this obfuscation manipulates public perception.

With fossil fuels controlling the media and the government, and with common forms of political engagement largely unavailable to us, we turn to divestment as our last opportunity to speak. Many other divestment campaigns have come to the forefront in the past but none more powerful than Divest from South Africa of the late 1970s and 1980s. At

that time, divestment grew to the point where corporations such as IBM and General Motors felt the impact on their business and withdrew their factories and contracts from South Africa. Eventually, with the added pressure of US legislation, the isolation of the apartheid regime resulted in its falling apart.

Keeping South Africa in our memory backpack, the environmental movement carries on, chugging away at our opposition. In just the past couple of years, 18 colleges, 64 religious institutions and a number of cities and other organizations have all taken the pledge to divest from fossil fuels. Oil, gas and coal are starting to feel the pressure, and every day we gain sway in their rigged system. Divestment signals to politicians the importance of climate change issues to the public, forcing them to act on these matters so vital to our lives. As Ghandi said, "First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win."



## THE MIDDLEBURY SEAL: HERE TO STAY

To the Editor:

In the two weeks since Middlebury announced its new identity system, I've heard from several students and alumni who said they

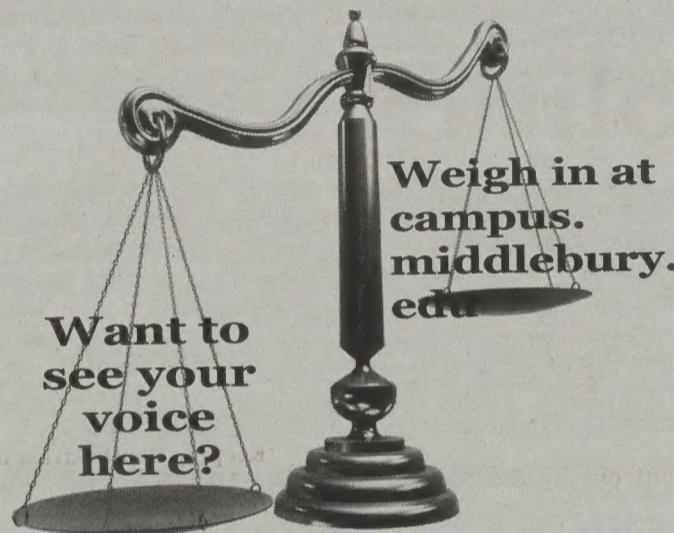
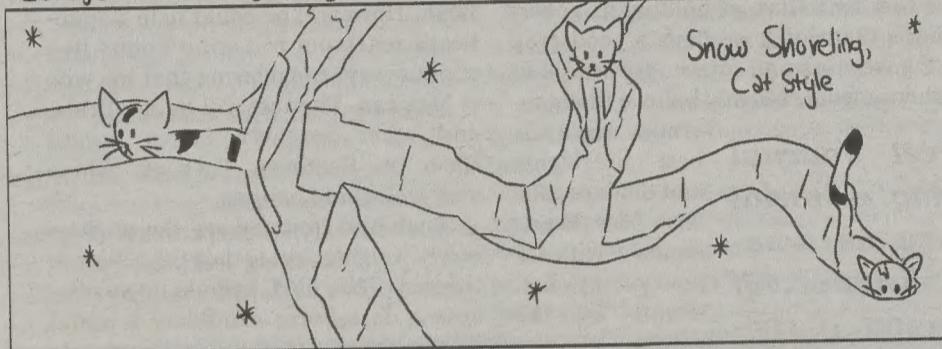
were confused at first about one important point: the status and future of the Middlebury seal. As we have said in every statement about the new system, in the FAQs on the website, and in the video we produced, the seal is not going away. We will continue to use it on diplomas and in formal and ceremonial settings, as we have for more than two centuries.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

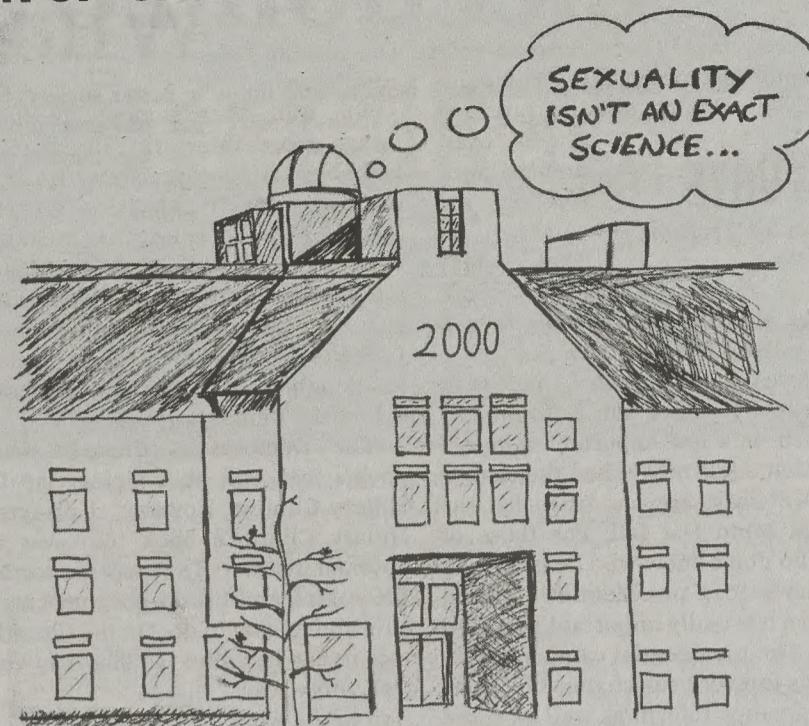
**Bill Burger** is the Vice President for Communications and Marketing

## College for Cats

College for Cats by Emily Cox

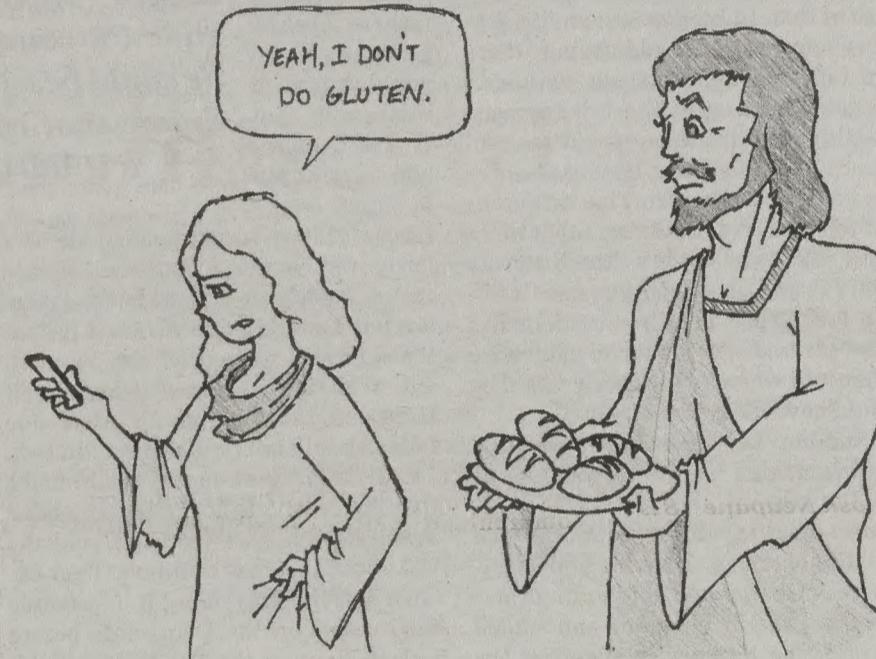


## AN OP-CARTOON BY BOONE MCCOY-CRISP



Bi-Hall: The only building whose sexuality we actually discuss.

## AN OP-CARTOON BY WIN HOMER



## Reading Davis Family Library

**THE A LIST**  
Luke Smith-Stevens  
'14.5 is from New York, N.Y.

gymns and courts in the Athletic center indicate the activities housed therein and so forth. However, the layout and contents of a building often communicate subtle aspects of the institutions they represent, values, objectives or ideologies that rest just beneath the surface.

When one enters Middlebury College's Davis Family Library desks, library stacks, the circulation desk and other familiar paraphernalia confirm the purpose and identity of the building. To the right, next to a descending set of stairs stands a row of glass display cases exhibiting articles from the Library's Special Collections. Currently, a collection of Tibetan and Nepalese Buddhist texts are on view, with one or two manuscripts occupying each of the display's seven cases. An interesting display, certainly worth checking out. But what can something seemingly benign such as this reveal about underlying institutional ideologies?

The Special Collections exhibition space immediately suggests to the library-goer a specific type of academic work: close consideration of primary materials, likely performed with white gloves and a face-mask, work that is site-specific to the building housing those materials. Anybody familiar with Middlebury students' study habits in general, and particularly in the Library, would quickly tell you that most student work looks nothing like that. Rather, the majority of assignments revolve around the use of a computer, either to type up a semester's worth of journal entries or to find a summary of the reading, most of which simply require wifi.

In his brief essay, "The Function of the Museum," Daniel Burin explains how museums, through various mechanisms, present themselves as guardians of certain aspects of culture. Through their collections and exhibitions of art they simultaneously create and embody "the concept

of the cultural location." The presentation of articles from the Library's Special Collections communicates the Library's cultural significance to the visitor, as well as the building's scholarly purposes. Indeed, the very name "Special Collections," which is displayed repeatedly above and around the displays, suggests advanced levels of study and "guarantees historical and psychological weight" (Burin again) of the items collected therein. By placing artifacts from this vaunted subsection of the library's contents so prominently, the institution suggests the great heights of scholarship that might one day be accessible to the hard-working Middlebury student.

These general implications of the Special Collections display are reinforced by the current exhibition of Buddhist texts. They are beautiful documents, weathered by age and use, but the colors and writing are still clear. However, a discerning eye will find a few oddities in their presentation. Most glaringly, the placards above each case state the dates of the exhibition as "October 15 - December 19, 2014." As of this issue, Jan. 22, 2015, the texts were still on display. Furthermore, only two of the seven placards divulge the dates of their respective cases' contents, and those two provide the years in which the authors' lived, not the year when the text itself was created.

These presentational ambiguities expose aspects of the institution's relationship with, and expectations of, its audience. The extension of the show's run is not announced anywhere in sight, and there is the strong impression that the organizers of Special Collections simply have not gotten around to changing the displays. This lack of urgency speaks to a crucial, distinctive feature of this particular exhibit and the space in general: these items are not for sale, and the space is not commercial. As a result, the space is not subject to the market pressures that influence the presentation of salable work. To pursue this line of thinking further, the non-commercial attitude here described reinforces the idea of the library as a vanguard of strict scholarship, independent of crass ideologies like "the market" or "scheduling." In this light, the casuality of punctuality takes

on an almost endearing whimsy appropriate to the study of musty old documents.

The lack of specific dating communicates another aspect of the assumed relationship between exhibition and viewer: that the audience will be comprised of novices, opposed to seasoned Buddhism scholars. One placard says of its contents, "This manuscript is displayed horizontally to fit this case, but is read vertically." In other words, "Nobody's actually going to read this." Aesthetic convenience plainly takes precedence over functionality.

This is not to say the exhibit is expressed in terms entirely devoid of intellectual or academic pursuit. Although the presentation is geared toward the individual uneducated in the subject matter, the audience's general level of information is taken for granted. For instance, there is no map showing the locations of Tibet and Nepal, nor is there an explanation of Buddhism. It is assumed, therefore, that the audience has a background of information regarding these places and topics. This assumption and the provision of new and exciting, but not overly challenging, supplementary information reflects the library's aims as an institution. It stands as a vanguard of knowledge accessible to those with the education and other means necessary to engage this section of high culture.

The Special Collections exhibition at the Davis Library functions as a kind of testament not only to the wealth of scholarship housed within the building, but also to the enormous gains that may be made by the individual willing to invest themselves in the library, and in the institution of Middlebury College. It is an advertisement for membership in the intellectual elite and the spoils to once you're in the club. Ancient Buddhist texts aren't your thing? Don't worry, the Bloomberg Portal is just a few steps further. With things like the rebranding of Middlebury's crest and the renaming of the Monterey Institute (which, if you're judging by email volumes, seems to "matter") happening around to us, it is important to be cognizant of the myriad ideologies packed into every inch of our College's self-presentation.

# Election 2016: An Outlook

Tuesday night, Barack Obama gave his penultimate state of the union address. The Obama administration is

## SWING VOTE

Phil Hoxie '17.5 is from  
Orinda, Calif.

almost over, and the 2016 elections are coming up. That may seem far off, but the shuffling and sorting is well underway for both parties.

Before I get into who I think is in and who I think is out, I would like to touch on a few important things. I hope that some of you had the chance to see Stewart Stevens when he was here at Midd last fall. For those of you who don't know who he is, he ran Romney's 2012 presidential bid, and he had a few really important points to make. The presidential campaign system has forever been changed by campaign finance reform as well as some important Supreme Court decisions. This is a very complicated subject, but what you need to know is that Super PACs, sometimes funded by one mega-donor can keep otherwise hopeless candidates in the race. Rick Santorum and Newt Gingrich are prime examples of that. In his discussion, Mr. Stevens referenced the old saying "there are only three tickets out of Iowa." Meaning, that after the Iowa caucus, the three frontrunners would soak up most of the donations, leaving the others behind in the dust. This is no longer the case. We saw in 2012 that there were many more than "three tickets out of Iowa", as long as you have a Super PAC. This new development has allowed for fringe groups to gain more attention, whereas in other years they would have likely fizzled out.

Another key development is that each campaign has two accounts, one for the general and one for the primary. In 2012, the Republicans had the disadvantage of having a primary, whereas Obama was able to fundraise for the general election, and ended up crushing Romney in spending the summer of 2012. This was because Romney had won the primary, but the convention hadn't happened yet so his general election account was frozen.

The playing field will be much more even in 2016.

But wait, there's more. To make things more interesting in 2016, a large block of southern states are moving their primary elections all onto one day. These seven states, including Texas and Florida, plan to use this as a means of increasing southern influence over the nominees for each party. I predict this will have a large effect on the Republican Primary and to a lesser extent the Democratic one.

The Democratic primary, many people feel, will be a victory lap for Hillary Clinton. However, I disagree. Hillary Clinton's book tour was an abysmal disaster. That was her testing the waters, and I think she may be unsure about what to do. On the flip side, this is her last shot, so she may very well throw caution to the wind and take the plunge. A second key point, and the Democrats don't like to admit this, is that they have a rather healthy progressive-populist branch that will not give in to a second Clinton in the White

House. Hillary is no populist, she is a fairly well connected business Democrat. I know that Hillary is the favorite, but I wouldn't be shocked if Sen. Warren tried to feed off the populist, anti-Wall Street fervor of late; or if Hillary didn't run at all. Also, Joe Biden should not be discarded. In fact, I really hope Joe runs. It would make the Democratic field the circus I hope it will be. Imagine the gaffs, and the late night sketches to follow. I get excited just thinking about it. I have one final detail on the Democrats before I slash through the Republican field; Democratic super-donor Tom Steyer may be eyeing a 2016 run for Barbara Boxer's Senate seat. This could pose a problem for some democratic can-

didates because in 2014, he funneled money to PACs, Super PACs, and other environmental candidates. If he runs for office in 2016, that money will be spent on his own race, rather than be dispersed to a presidential candidate and/or PAC.

The Republican primary will be a more of a wild card, especially with the southern, super Tuesday. I just recently saw a straw poll in which Dr. Ben Carson was at the top. This is absolutely preposterous. Dr. Carson has no experience holding public office, and the last thing this country needs is a president with no executive experience. The one benefit for the GOP is that by nature of holding 31 governor's mansions, we have a good crop of governors and former governors to choose from. I firmly believe that governors make the best presidents and Senators the best Vice Presidents (with a few exceptions), simply by the nature of the work. Jeb Bush, Mitt Romney, Rick Perry, Scott Walker, Mitch Daniels, John Kasich, Mike Huckabee, and Chris Christie.

Subtract Huckabee, and I could see any one of these candidates as potential frontrunners and/or the party nominee. Stepping into an area of wishful thinking, and I would like to see Condoleezza Rice gain some traction. But she would never run. I'm sure she has been approached, and repelled all attempts to get her in the race.

Back in reality, a second straw poll I saw this week showed Mitt Romney in first place with 20 percent of the vote. Yet, the Wall Street Journal wrote a blistering editorial equating Romney as damaged goods. I disagree. If Romney can mount a successful "opportunity for all" style PR campaign, I believe he could be a formidable candidate that could take down a Hill-

ary Clinton. However, I fear Romney will get smashed on Southern Tuesday, which I think will be bad for the party. I feel like Romney could win the general, but there are few scenarios in which I see him escaping a blistering primary. Call me crazy, but I want the most capable person in the White House, and in my eyes that person is Mitt.

Jeb Bush is another favorite of mine. A good, level-headed proactive executive. Exactly the type of person I would want in the situation room. He did a very good job as governor of Florida, but that may all turn out to be null and void because his last name is Bush. However, he could help Republicans reach out to Latino Voters in a serious way, considering that his wife is Mexican. The test will be if Florida, and other Southern States reward Bush on Southern Tuesday, which very well could happen.

Bush and Romney are the obvious heavy weights, but rather than discuss the rest of the field, I would like to discuss a dark-horse candidate I would like to see. I would really like to see South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley enter the race. A strong, pro-business, Republican, she has fought very hard to bring jobs to South Carolina and could be a strong, sensible, and inspiring candidate. I doubt she would run, but the RNC does have her as an option in the straw poll.

Finally, I would like to recognize what a smart move Paul Ryan (R-WI) made in not running for President, and making that very clear. As Ezra Klein (whom I have never really agreed with on anything until now) noted in his VOX piece, Ryan wields a lot more influence over policy in Congress as Ways and Means Chair. Candidates will be seeking his support and adopting his ideas, rather than distancing themselves from him as a contender for the nomination. I think that is very good for the party moving forward. As I believe Paul Ryan is a crucial policy maker for the GOP moving forward. All said and done, 2015 is sure to be an eventful year of shuffling and straw polls. Then on to 2016.

**"The Wall Street Journal wrote a blistering editorial equating Romney as damaged goods. I disagree. If Romney can mount a successful "opportunity for all" style PR campaign, I believe he could be a formidable candidate that could take down a Hillary Clinton."**

# At the Gun Range

My family members have never been "gun people." Nobody has ever owned one; it is doubtful any of us could tell you how

## THE UNPOPULAR OPINION

Andrew DeFalco '15.5 is from Boston, Mass.

were like needles on the street or strangers, that you should never touch one and the only people who carry them are cops, bad guys and the military. You can imagine my surprise when my mother announced one Saturday this summer that she had purchased the family a Groupon for a beginner-shooting lesson at the local gun range.

This had to be the start of some kind of joke. "So the DeFalco family gets a Groupon to the gun range..." I'm not sure what the punch line would be but I was already laughing at the lead-in. A gun range? A Groupon? From my mild-mannered mother? We are city people, my parents grew up in New York and we have spent our lives in other large metropolitan cities like Toronto and Boston. Most city people can tell you that a gun in the city carries a different connotation than a gun in the country. Yet, there we were. The DeFalco family had piled into the car to go cash in our Groupon and go shooting.

I was terrible. The instructor assured me that it's hard the first time, but after sending three bullets ricochetting off the ceiling

he politely took the AK-47 out of my hand and suggested I try the pistol. I spent most of the afternoon watching my family send bullets flying through paper targets while I tried to feel proud about my abysmal accuracy. As funny as the whole production was, I was not particularly interested in the antics of my family. Instead the "regulars" fascinated me. Ordinary looking men and women who calmly entered the range, firearms in sleek looking cases, loaded and prepped their weapons professionally and didn't think twice about sending entire clips into a target. I still tried to feel proud about my four-for-ten accuracy.

Now, I live in Massachusetts, a state with perhaps the strictest gun regulations. It is not a common thing to run into people who own guns or talk about guns and, more often than not, the whole idea is frowned upon. Here was an entirely new group, who appeared to have a real passion for what they were doing and handled it with a degree of professionalism I had never associated with gun ownership. To be fair, I was a little turned off by how easy it would be for any of these people to take me down at fifty yards, but damn it looked cool.

I later learned that we had all gone on this odd excursion as more than just a charming family activity. I think the Aurora and Newtown tragedies had struck a chord in my parents and they realized that maybe they should know at least something about these metal sticks that kept making the news. It was a curiosity bred out of anxiety. The whole exercise was a way to

understand something that was completely foreign, even if nobody in the family was in a rush to do it again. And it did change my perspective. I was unnerved by how easy it was, how simple it was to simply point and shoot, but impressed by the thrill of it. I was no crack shot but to my surprise it was a lot of fun.

So what is the long-winded, long-coming moral of the story? Try new things, even if they directly contradict your beliefs? Well, sure. We do that all the time though, right?

(I'm looking at all you people who have yet to fill your distribution requirements.) I went to the gun range and I am still not overly fond of guns. My political views stayed largely the same, but at least now I had the experience of being able to understand what I didn't like about them. Before the experi-

ence, I was only using news clippings and statistics to support my beliefs. It wasn't until I actually went shooting that I could understand what it was that I didn't like about it. To be fair, I also learned that while I'm a terrible shot, I also felt like a badass.

So here are my words of wisdom: try even the things you hate. If you're a communist, take an Econ class, just to make sure you still believe what you believe. If you are a feminist, get a male in your life to try to talk about the experience of being a man.



NOLAN ELLSWORTH

# New Project Resilience Goes Live with Stories

By Hye-Jin Kim

On a typical crisp autumn night in Brooker last semester, Cooper Couch '14.5 was curious about his new housemates. Curled up besides the cozy warmth of a crackling fire with fellow Brooker residents, he asked Emma Erwin '15.5 a simple question.

"What's the hardest thing you've ever done?"

This question has inspired dozens of Middlebury students to share stories on tackling their own private struggles. Originally an online platform for story submissions (read them at go/resilience), Project Resilience culminated with a two-hour storytelling event that took place in McCullough on January 20. At 8 P.M., students gathered in Wilson Hall to listen to their peers share their battles against depression, anorexia, anxiety, family deaths, and other personal struggles.

"The hardest things are often the most difficult to acknowledge, reflect on and share; but they are often the most critical, and that's why I decided to use

this prompt for [Project Resilience]," Erwin said.

The idea of writing to heal is not new. An article published in *The New York Times* earlier this January cited two studies, one at Duke University and another at Stanford, on the benefits of personal story-telling. Both showed that listening to peers who faced similar struggles led to long-term increased satisfaction with their college experiences. Researchers believed this exercise helped students change their personal narratives from "I don't belong here", to one of positivity and resilience, "I can get through this."

"I was interested to see what everyone else was going through," said Rachael Salerno '18, who was also in-attendance. "I've had a blessed life and I've kind of been blind to what other people have been through."

Jessica Chen '17 echoed, "The respect I have for the people who shared their stories is two-part. For having the strength to survive that particular struggle. And for having the courage to write and speak



MICHAEL O'HARA

On Tuesday, students took the mic to share their struggle with mental health.

## An Open Letter: Why I Chose Not to Attend Resilience

By Casey Watters

I have a story, too. That was my first thought when Project Resilience first hit Facebook with founder of Resilience, Emma Erwin's story. As the campus responded with likes, comments and shares, I felt an irrational anger and sadness take over, making me want to scream — I have a story, too. This indescribable feeling tugged at me from the inside as I struggled with an internal debate between having the utmost respect for Project Resilience and Emma, and for some reason feeling left out.

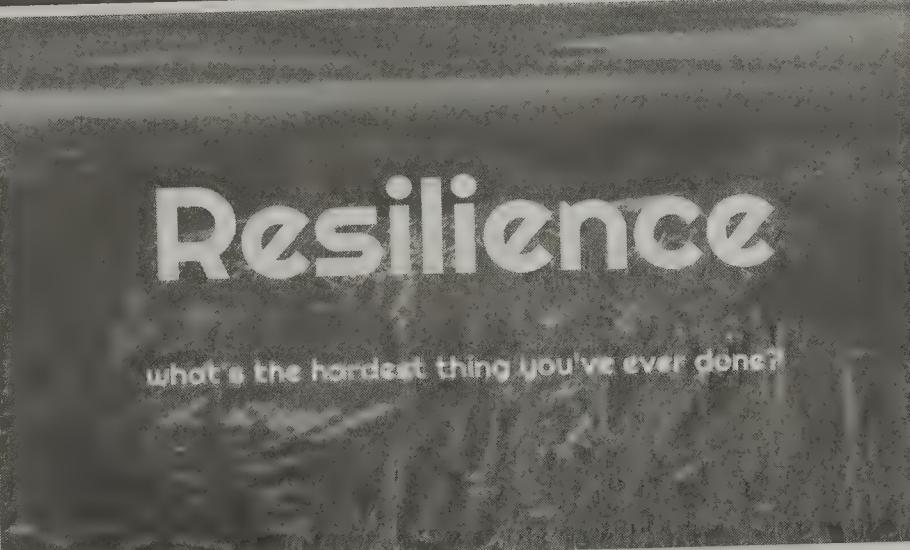
Project Resilience is a combination of social media postings of stories about perseverance and a culminating story-reading event that happened on Tuesday. This project is bigger than any one student or story, and I have seen firsthand how it has changed the conversation on this campus regarding mental illness. I stand by the belief that Project Resilience is an inspirational project, full of students sharing stories of suffering and perseverance, and I applaud every student who took part in this event. Headed by my good friend Emma Erwin, I couldn't imagine a better person for the cause. I hope that the audience left with a new sense of empathy, and for those still struggling, that the stigma of seeking help has been at least slightly alleviated. So why did I not attend?

After months of conversations and journaling, I realized that this event was not fully representative. We live in a society that privileges the extrovert speaking up in class, promotes constant social media updates and rewards the tweeting

church-goer with likes and shares over the quiet daily devotee in the back row. But what must not be forgotten when social media fills with stories of perseverance is that there is another road just as valid.

For those more introverted individuals on the path towards overcoming mental illness, seeing mental illness popularized in this way may serve as a trigger. Cutting, for example, works like alcoholism, and constantly facing reminders of its temptation may trigger dangerous behavior in an individual still struggling.

Two of my friends told me that they had not really thought about how Project Resilience may affect some students negatively. But for those with a history of mental illness, ignoring prominent social media updates is not a privilege they have. Not sharing may trigger a sentiment of failure — is it wrong that they have not posted? Are they less courageous? Or not as far along on the path of recovery? Are they somehow reinforcing the stigma surrounding mental illness? I struggled with these questions for weeks as I saw hundreds of likes and comments



On a campus where mental illness and traumas get pushed aside, Project Resilience asks students to tell their story online in answer to the question: "What's the hardest thing you've done?" On Tuesday in Wilson Hall, the stories told on the website were brought to life in a two-hour event.

about it publicly."

Though some students were drawn to the event to support friends who were sharing their stories, others admitted the free cupcakes catered by MiddCakes were especially tempting. Regardless of the reason, every seat was filled; even the floor was packed with cross-legged attendees sitting shoulder to shoulder.

Mara Gans '15.5, who shared her story at the event, was not surprised by the large turn-out. "These [mental/emotional] issues are something everyone can relate to," she said. For her, the most rewarding part of the evening was watching the audience's reactions as she spoke. Watching people hug each other or quietly release a couple tears was particularly moving.

"At the end of the day, it's not about my story and it's not about me speaking. It's about this campus being a place where we can have these kinds of conversations, [where] this 'harder' side of us is something we can share," she said.

Though Cole Bortz '17, who attended the event, could not directly relate to any of the stories he heard, the speakers still impressed him. "It's just nice to be around people being so honest. You don't necessarily get that a lot. Especially with people you don't know. And even with people you

do know."

Gans has also spoken at "It Happens Here", a similar story-telling event focusing on sexual assault. She described sharing her story for Project Resilience as more of a community-based experience. "[It Happens Here] was about recognizing my own struggle and my own story," she said. "I felt like this project [Resilience] was more about community and realizing that we all go through things. Providing hope to other people."

For Salerno, listening to struggles of her peers helped put her own life into perspective. "You never know what people are going through," she said, highlighting the importance of being kinder to everyone in daily interactions.

This event may have opened the door, even if only a slight crack, to a more honest and open-minded campus culture. "A campus that's more empathetic and more willing to listen to what other people have to say," Gans said.

"The truth is, everyone has a story," Erwin said. "Whether you're someone who has faced some serious struggles of your own, or not, it's important to support those who are sharing and to acknowledge the parts of your own life that have been difficult to handle."

**"For anyone who has struggled, or is struggling, with mental illness and chooses not to share their story, or feels frustrated or alone, there's no shame in that. You didn't miss a crucial step."**

CASEY WATTERS '15  
STUDENT MEMBER OF WELLNESS COMMITTEE

on the stories, questioning my own courage and dedication to the cause.

So here I am, saying that I have a story, too. But I didn't post it, and I probably never will. I fight society's stigma against mental illness through different means and outlets. For me, healing was a long, internal process that I could

not have done without the amazing support of my close friends and family. For others who choose a more open approach or appreciate a wider circle of support, I maintain the utmost respect

and am open to a dialogue about how to make sure that all individuals are cared for and not judged for their path of healing.

I'm by no means promoting suffering in silence. I think every individual could benefit from seeking professional help, and the culture of the community has a huge impact on stigmatizing counseling. And for that, I am genuinely happy that Project Resilience happened. I think this campus needed it, and I'm eager to see the change it may have catalyzed.

In the end, there is no one straight path to healing, and it is impossible to predict the frequent and dangerous ditches along the way. For anyone who



GLORIA BRECK

# THE LAST DRAFT

Seniors reflect as they finish their theses.

Interviews by Jessica Cheung, Isabelle Stillman and Joe Flaherty

Design by Julia Hatheway

*What is the gist of your thesis?*

I'm writing about the British Commonwealth air training plan during World War II, which took place in Canada. Airmen who were training to be fighter pilots during the war from the Commonwealth countries — the U.K., Australia, New Zealand and some of the smaller ones as well — were sent to Canada, where they trained alongside Canadian pilots, and then from there they would go overseas and fight in the war. I'm looking at the effects that program had on Canadian national identity, its connection with the Commonwealth and how the economic benefits of the plan made Canada more independent and more connected at the same time.

*What was the inspiration for your topic?*

I've always been really interested in war history, especially World War II, and I'm from Canada so I wanted to do a Canadian topic — especially because everybody always makes fun of how Canada doesn't have a military history. There are jokes about how we are never involved in any of the wars even though we are always in the wars, especially because whenever Britain is in a war Canada is also usually in the war. So I wanted to look at Canada in World War II. The National War Museum is in Ottawa, which is my hometown, and so I remembered seeing an exhibit when I was walking around the museum a few years ago about the air training plan and I thought it was really interesting because it had a huge impact on the allied war effort but it's not often talked about.

*Is there a working title for your thesis?*

I don't know if I'll keep it, because what I originally had it as kind of changed, but I was using a quotation that originally came from the vice-air marshal at the time, William Bishop, who was also a World War I ace, and the quote was from one of his speeches. He said, "When the lion roars, the cubs will answer the call," and it meant the Lion is the symbol of Great Britain and so the cubs were the Canadians.

*What's your stress level?*

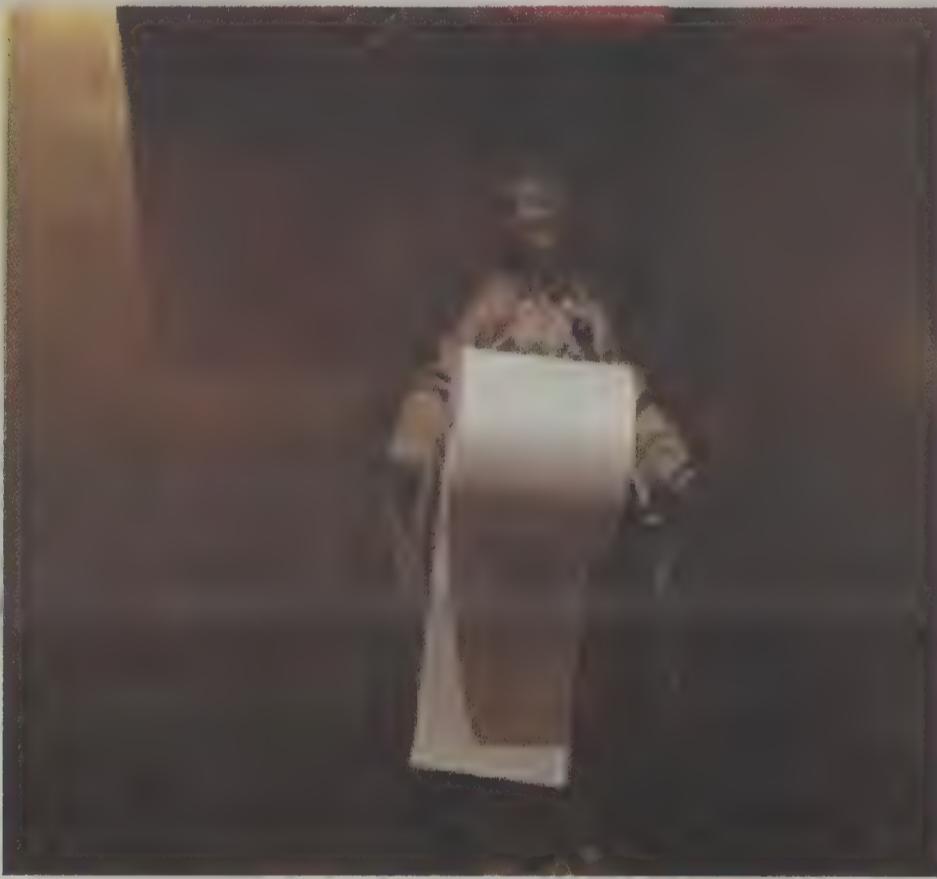
The stress level is not too bad yet, I'm at about 30 pages, which I think is a decent spot to be in. I want to have a rough draft finished by this weekend so I can hunker down and do some editing. So, I'm not too stressed out yet but I anticipate by the end of the week it will start to hit.

**-Madeline Marsh, a History major from Ottawa, Canada**



I am a comparative literature major studying French and English and studied abroad in Bordeaux, France. While there I got really hooked on bathrooms — the physical space, their symbolic posture in between public and private spheres, and the bodily function that takes place within. So that led me to a curiosity in the body and the physical reality of things. With that in mind I am currently reading Samuel Beckett, eventually writing a paper and coupling it with a dance and creative writing project. My goal is to compare physical body language with written language and hopefully find a point where they intersect.

**-Meredith White, a Comparative Lit. major from Marin, California**



I love being an IGS major, but at times it has been difficult to piece together all the different classes I've taken in many departments and have it feel meaningful. As the only IGS major with a focus on East Asia/Religion, I decided I would ultimately benefit from a senior thesis that would allow me to synthesize and comprehend all of my interests into a compact and readable paper. I'm currently finishing up my 110+ page paper (due Jan. 29... yikes) entitled "Born Shinto, Mary Christian: The Buddhist Reexamining Life Passage Rituals Amidst an Aging Japan."

Basically, I am bringing together research in two fields: religious studies and demography, to examine how extreme population changes are impacting the already ambiguous and hard-to-define religious atmosphere of Japan. Currently, Japan has the highest life expectancy in the world and also the "oldest" population. By 2030, 1/3 of the Japanese population is expected to be over the age of 65. With this aging comes drastic societal changes in the ways families are structured, and over the course of the past seven months, I've been researching historical and contemporary rituals and rites-of-passage to evaluate what Japan's future religious trajectory might be. This has turned out to be an enormous and exhausting project, but one that I'm very invested in and proud of. I also hope to present my research at the spring symposium!

**-Holly Hummer, an International Global Studies major from Austin, Texas**



Since I declared a joint major in political science and art history, I have known I had to complete some sort of senior work that combines my training in both disciplines. I'd been thinking of various potential ideas for a while before I read an article in *The Atlantic* back in February 2014 that set off a lightbulb in my head. It was an article titled "A Dictator's Guide to Urban Design" and it talked about how the protesters in Ukraine used the square in the center of Kiev as their main base and how that seems to be the case in many other cases of revolution as well. So initially, after reading this article, I wanted to investigate how protesters and authoritarian governments use the way that a city is set up to their advantage.

I spoke to a couple of art history professors over the summer and in September, eventually narrowing my investigation to two sites in particular: the National Mall in Washington, DC and Tiananmen Square in Beijing, China, both of which I am very familiar with. As I did more research, I moved away from the question of protest to more looking at the extent to which the architecture and visual language in both spaces reflect the very different political regimes in each country. My main argument is that the process by which the two spaces were designed and implemented very much reflects the way that the different governments work but that there are interesting parallels between the historical circumstances surrounding the conception of each space that drove the leaders of each country to bolster political legitimacy and construct a new national identity through building a new monumental core that have some remarkable similarities in form.

The process has been really rewarding for me. I have been able to tie a lot of my political theory readings together with a critical analysis of architectural form. I received a grant from the URCO in the fall to travel to Beijing to examine some archival documents there and to look at Tiananmen Square more critically (I hadn't been in more than 3 years). My ultimate goal, I suppose, is to synthesize my two main areas of academic interest and say something meaningful about the intersection of architecture and politics in two of the most symbolically important capital cities in the world.

**Danny Zhang, a Political Sciences and History joint major from Toronto, Canada**

My thesis work is on the analysis of multiple slumps in Lake Champlain. I have discovered the slumps through CHIRP, compressed high intensity radar pulses, released from a device towed behind the RV Folger. I am now using paleomagnetic cubes, lead 210 and cesium, to date three slumps located just south of Burlington Bay in the central section of Lake Champlain. It is understood that slumps in large lacustrine environments can be triggered by earthquakes in the same region. I will use the dates that I have uncovered through lab analysis to create a paleoseismic history of this region. My thesis will also tie previously studied slumps in Lake Champlain together allowing me to create a bigger and better understood history of this area. In the conclusion I would like to connect this history to the present day and help homeowners along the banks of Lake Champlain become more aware of the possibility of a slump or landslide.

**-Piper Underbrink, a Geology major from Ocala, Florida**

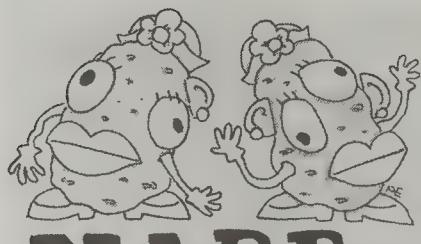


Growing up in a ballet studio, for a long time I have felt as though I was placed in a box. There were certain things society allowed and others it would not stand for. As I developed as a dancer and as a human being, I began to question that box and why I felt as though I had to fit in it. When the opportunity arose to create a joint thesis in dance and English, I felt I could make the biggest difference — to me and to anyone who happens to read the work — by looking at the ways in which children's literature influences stereotypes around the dancer and her body — how it enhances, destroys, and accepts society's norms. I'll admit, the idea of working with children's literature grew not only from a desire to socially analyze my world but also from a deep sense of nostalgia and great appreciation for the often undervalued power of books for young readers.

My thesis, entitled *The Life They Told Our Daughters*, has two parts. Last semester, I completed the English portion of the work and will now move on to finish the dance piece. My first attempt told a very linear story about growing up and finding one's self in a set of ideals. As I move forward, I aim to explore what it was like for me to be a little girl reading books about ballerinas in tutus and how I have fought the ideals with which I have been presented since I was three years old; sometimes I've won the battle, and other times I have lost. I will not know where I am headed until I am there, so I can only hope I learn a little something along the way.

**-Stevie Durocher, a Dance-English joint major from Northwest Kingdom of Vermont**





## N.A.R.P.s NON-ATHLETIC REGULAR PEOPLE

By Izzy Fleming and Maddie Webb

When one spends 100 bucks on a bikini wax over break, it is important to make the feeling of a thousand fires being ignited on your "coochie" worth it. ("Is this what death feels like?" - Maddie Webb). One may assume that a bikini wax is part of the school-wide mission to secure that J-term cuddle buddy YikYak has told us all about. But let's be real. That dream is too good to be true. The laziness of J-term only becomes exponentially greater as time goes on. Being hygienic and peppy enough to confront sunlight and let alone, people, is REALLY REALLY HARD, WE KNOW. So naturally, we chose aquajogging; an activity that involved swimsuits so we could show off our otherwise-pointless waxes (if it isn't clear, we are single and ready to mingle). It should be noted, however, that the Literacy workshop came in at a close second. Professor Juana Gamero de Coca, also known as Izzy's mom, always reiterates that it's important "to know your body."

It came time to head over to the athletic center, and Maddie still didn't understand that her barely-there Victoria Secret's bikini has a time and place to be worn - not in January, not in Vermont and not in Middlebury's athletic natatorium. Izzy learned her lesson from her recent log rolling NARP adventure and borrowed a racing suit from a member of the swim team to avoid nip slips. HOW WRONG SHE WAS. When submerged under water, the swimsuit became remarkably transparent. Combined with the cold water, well, you get the picture.

The instructions were simple once we arrived at the deep end. **Step 1:** Securely buckle into the provided aquajogging buoyancy belt. **Step 2:** Get in water. **Step 3:** Jog. Before we knew it, we pushed off the wall and embarked on our first lap. The best comparison we could come up with to explain the sensation of running in water is when you are in a nightmare and trying to run away but you end up staying in place. After thirty minutes of endless questions ranging from "If I pee in the pool, will they know?" to "Are we allowed to use the hot tub for the diving team after this is over?" to "Is this how astronauts train to walk on the moon?" Izzy had an epiphany. In the middle of discussing the new presidential candidates (lol, as if we are intellectual enough to hold that conversation), she exclaimed, "Maddie, I can feel it, I've finally got it, I'm aquajogging." Ten minutes later, Maddie pretended to have the same epiphany. Together, they flew through the water - Izzy in good form, Maddie subtly doggy-paddling to keep up. Eventually establishing a PR (personal record) of a solid 2 minutes to cross the length of the pool, I think it's safe to say you can call us Michael Phelps Missy Franklin! Girl Power!

PSA: Just to be clear, our PR definitely suffered from our refusal to shave our legs in the winter months (speaking for all girls here). Sorry boys, but once the shorts are put away, there isn't a strong enough reason for us to accidentally touch the shower walls while attempting to shave. With stronger aerodynamics (is that even an applicable word if we are in water? aquadynamics?) we think we could've had a more impressive PR.

After the hour-long session ended, we decided to take things to the next level, and attempt to aquajog like true athletes - without the floatie belt. It only took ten seconds for the water to go over our mouths. It was at that moment that Maddie sneezed, inadvertently inhaled water and started to choke. Lesson of the day? Never be too confident, people! Apparently, we didn't look too amateur because we got invited to practice with the swim team! Yes, it may have been the elementary school swim team. And yes, we would have been the oldest ones there by 10 years. I know this is starting to sound more insulting than complimentary, but we felt really good about it.

We know that J-term is all about wearing pajama sets, drinking wine, getting through all of the Oscar-nominated movies, and planning for spring break, but it is also the least busy time of the year for most. Even if it's only for an hour per week, try something new because you may find something you like. If you hate it, just know that watching Netflix in bed is a workshop in our books.

# Mental Wellness Abroad

By Emma McDonald

I've been in Madrid, Spain for the past week, beginning my semester of study abroad at the Middlebury School in Spain. Though Madrid has been amazing thus far, there are times of homesickness, stress, exhaustion and culture shock.

Though these experiences are normal and common amongst those who

or strategies for self-management while abroad.

Another factor is international insurance and mental health. In Madrid, for example, we received a list during orientation of health and mental health resources that accept HTH Worldwide Insurance, the standard Middlebury Schools Abroad insurance. You may want to check in advance whether the place you plan on studying has mental health resources that accept this insurance, and if not, plan accordingly.

Take time to consider how housing options, university options and program size will affect your time abroad and impact management of mental health issues. It may be that a smaller program with more individualized attention and housing with other students you already know may be a better fit for you. If you feel comfortable, you can discuss mental health resources abroad with the study abroad office or students who have studied abroad before. This may give you a better idea of what to expect and how to approach any issues that arise while abroad.

It's important to have realistic expectations. Studying abroad can be overwhelming. Don't expect everything to go perfectly, but don't expect to be miserable all the time (that's a sign that something may be wrong). Reading other student's blogs can help prepare you for possible cultural differences and give you an idea of the typical range of reactions to studying abroad.

Once abroad, it's important to maintain contact with others - don't isolate

yourself just because you feel overwhelmed and out of place. Chances are other students feel the same way.

Do

your best to make connections to people in the host country and explore your surroundings, but don't feel bad if you need time to indulge in American comforts, like favorite TV shows or peanut butter.

Finding ways to get outside of your apartment or house to get some exercise and stimulation is vital.

Researching beforehand can help make it easier to find your favorite activities abroad - in large cities, there are likely to be sports teams and gyms you can join, dance classes to take and free walking tours of the city.

Make a list beforehand of things you'd like to do and see in the place you're going; pre-made lists can provide extra motivation to get out of the house and experience the culture of an unfamiliar place.

Journaling can be helpful to reflect on your experiences abroad and your feelings toward various aspects of the semester or year.

This sort of reflection may help you identify healthy and unhealthy patterns of coping in a new setting and can better prepare you for future mental health issues that might arise.

Keeping in contact with those at home is important but can become a problem as well: make sure you aren't spending too much time in contact with those back home, even at the beginning. This can lead to more extreme homesickness and dependence and can start an unhealthy pattern for the rest of the semester.

Nutrition, adequate sleep and moderation in use of alcohol and drugs are important as well. Make sure to eat enough and eat well; branch out and try

new foods, but don't use that as an excuse to eat unhealthily (e.g. do not go to France and eat only croissants and Nutella).

It can be hard to get adequate amounts of sleep while abroad, especially with the different eating and sleeping schedules of many cultures. Putting in the extra effort to get enough sleep can have a huge impact on how you handle being abroad; fatigue combined with the unfamiliarity of a different culture can make small problems seem like crises.

Alcohol and drugs can also make small problems more severe. Though being abroad is a great time to try wine in Italy and beer in Germany, moderation and control are important, especially at first, when you may not know the layout of the place you're studying, sketchy areas and how to avoid being mugged, or who to contact in emergency situations.

It is important to be realistic in your expectations for how you'll feel abroad. It's normal to feel sad, frustrated and angry while abroad, perhaps even more frequently than at home.

A new culture can be challenging to adapt to. That said, it is not typical to be sad, depressed or miserable all the time. If you're having trouble getting out of bed every day or find yourself crying all the time, you should talk to someone and find out what resources are available to get help.

If you're in a place with limited resources, there is lots of helpful information online for ways to cope with feelings of depression, anxiety and more while abroad.

Many universities have guides for mental health condition management while abroad; one example is Northwestern University's "Mental Health Abroad" (found [here](http://www.northwestern.edu/studyabroad/guide/health-and-safety/health/mental-health-abroad.html)).

Studying abroad is an invaluable experience for many students; having a mental health condition does not mean you can't take part in it. Like physical health issues, mental health conditions require extra consideration when deciding whether to study abroad and extra preparation when getting ready to go abroad; with a little preparation, study abroad can still be a success!



COURTESY OF EMMA McDONALD  
The columnist Emma McDonald at the Middlebury School in Spain, Sede Prim.

# No Half-Baked Ideas at OSM Creative Hub

By Erin Winseman

Madison Stebbins '14.5 grew up in Colorado eating homemade sourdough waffles on Sunday mornings. A Geography major at the College, Stebbins' future plans lie in land management, yet he uses his space at the Old Stone Mill (OSM) for baking bread. This project developed from his love for geography, his belief in the value of self-production, and his desire to continue his family's Sunday tradition.

Last summer, Stebbins worked as a wild firefighter in Wyoming, where living alone not only forced him to cook much of his own food, but also to consider the costs of his own consumption levels.

"I'm definitely trying to live more consciously and produce whatever I need to in life," Stebbins said. "Living alone this summer fighting fires made me ask how much of what I'm buying can I produce myself."

When Stebbins returned to the College in the fall of 2014, this question of production value, combined with a spontaneous conversation with a friend who brews beer at the OSM, led him to become a tenant at the OSM. "I'm fairly confident that I can cook for myself for the most part, and I thought it would be interesting to learn to bake bread," Stebbins said. "I'm very interested in hard skills like carpentry and metal welding, and the OSM is one of the few spaces to really teach yourself a craft." He added that, economically speaking, he could bake a better quality pound of bread

for \$1 versus buying a loaf of bread for \$2, another benefit of self-production.

Stebbins has made a variety of breads over the past few months but has focused largely on making artisanal breads, improving from his first few misshapen loaves to ones that you might see in a pro-

"The best trick to make it work is to cook the bread in a cast iron pot. For the first half the steam is held in the pot, which makes the crust hard, and for the second half you take the lid off which allows the moisture to evaporate," Stebbins said.

Stebbins has also made his own sourdough bread at the College. He mixes flour and water in a jar and leaves it out, allowing the yeast in Middlebury's air to form in the jar, thus making the sourdough.

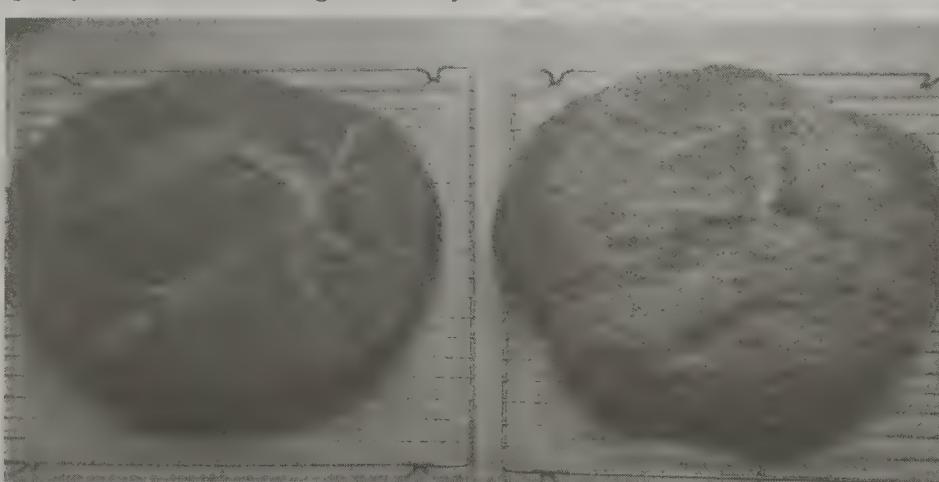
"San Francisco sourdough is famous because the yeast in the air is tangy. The yeast colony is specific to location, and as a Geography major I'm super into that," Stebbins said. "I can make bread from the yeast in the air of the OSM."

Once the bread is done baking, the absence of preservatives allows it to go stale quickly. So Stebbins often gives it away

to people. "It's great, you can bring joy to people that easily," Stebbins said. "It would be cool to bake bread for my kids one day."

Although Stebbins' graduation is quickly approaching, he continues to bake bread and experiment with different recipes in his off-campus apartment.

"A lot of what you pick up in school stops being useful in the most direct sense, but bread baking is something I plan on doing for the rest of my life," Stebbins said. "This stemmed from my effort to be more conscious of the world and my impact on it."



ERIN WINSEMAN

Stebbins '14.5's bread-making process involves more than just dough: it is a craft, a science experiment, a recollection of childhood memories and a basis for friendship.

## Cliteracy Devices, Rhetorical Phallacy

By Martina Berger

Early on Tuesday night, when the sun had completely set and the temperature dropping by the minute, the room slowly fills with chattering students. Some sink into beanbags. Others stretch out on one of the many couches in the cozy, lamp-lit space. At first glance, this could just be a get-together of friends about to watch a movie on the projector or the weekly meeting of one of the College numerous clubs. Then Becca Hicks '15 stands up, smiles and introduces this session's topic of conversation.

"We are focusing on female pleasure tonight," she said.

Clearly this is not just any old gathering.

At 6 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, between twenty and thirty people gather in the Gamut Room to partake in the student-run J-term workshop Cliteracy. Founded by Priscilla Odinmah '15, Hicks,

Jeanette Cortez '15 and Eriche Sarvay '15, the program aims to provide a safe space to talk about something considered largely taboo in most cultures today: female sexuality.

"I felt like the conversation was missing at Middlebury," said Odinmah, explaining why she wanted to start Cliteracy, which was inspired by a 12-week long workshop called FemSex at the University of California, Berkeley.

"Occasionally there are cool talks on the subject and they are usually really well-attended, but there's nothing consistent," Hicks agrees. "At Middlebury, we're so good at feeding the mind," she adds. "But we need to know how to feed the body as well."

The organizers also cite female empowerment and discriminatory societal norms as a motive for starting the discussion group.

"Female sexuality is an area in which there is more shame, more taboos and more

compromise than male sexuality or sexuality in general," says Odinmah.

She further explains that so much of what is talked about in modern culture is about women trying to please their partners, and that girls are taught that sex is something that should be done to them, rather than by them.

The overall goal of the workshop is to create a safe space for women to discuss subjects that people find uncomfortable or unladylike. In order to do this, the informal sessions consist of watching videos, playing ice-breaking games, sharing stories, asking questions and the occasional guest speaker. Each hour-and-a-half meeting focuses dialogue on a different topic. So far the workshop has covered sex myths, anatomy and pleasure and will turn next to periods, followed by language and body language.

Designed as only a J-term workshop, the leaders and participants will use the last meeting to look to the future.

"One of my goals personally is planting a seed," Odinmah said. "Just hearing the word 'cliteracy' roll off the tongue is a big thing for me." All four of the workshop's organizers are seniors, but they hope the issue won't die when they graduate in May.

"The more people know, the more that conversation can be spread," Hicks said. Having received strong initial turnout and overall positive feedback from the mostly-female group of attendees, the leaders want the program to be expanded in the future.

"My dream is for Cliteracy to exist on the same level as FemSex with a 12-week long syllabus, facilitators and guest speakers," Odinmah said.

They also express the hope that males on campus would continue to attend.

"The way we envisioned it, it is mainly a female space. But that's only half the population," Hicks said. "Guys refer to a vagina as a sort of fearful black hole, but chances are, you came out of one. Just because you don't have a clitoris, doesn't mean you shouldn't know what it is."



Cupcakes decorated with clitoris frosting served at the student-led sex positive workshop.

## IN-QUEER-Y

### WOMEN ARE GROSS, PERIOD

By Lee Michael Garcia Jimenez and Rubby Valentin Paulino

When puberty comes around, little boys learn about the very rewarding experience of becoming a man. It is the time of muscle building, getting hair on your chest and getting a man's voice. Everything gets bigger and manlier and what's better than being a man in today's patriarchy? Nothing. But for the female-bodied folk among us, the process is very different.

Yes, there's the womanly figure and the magic of having babies, but puberty is also the time you get your period, affectionately called the curse of all women. (Not to mention that giving birth is something we're taught is terrifying and it isn't very sensitive to every body type to describe just one as womanly).

Puberty is awful enough, without societal constructs that make you feel shame around your body and its functions. Women and men alike are taught to view the period as something dirty and unpleasant. It is present in multiple aspects of life, from religious conventions and cultural views, to the media.

Am I saying that having your period is an amazing experience? No. I get there's a struggle. Menstruation is an experience that varies immensely from person to person and for many that includes a rush of hormones, cramps, bloating, etc. in addition to the iconic bleeding. However, there's a big difference between saying that having your period can be unpleasant and saying it's something disgusting. Because when something is disgusting, we feel the need to hide it.

Menstruation is something about half of us are familiar with, and from the biological perspective, it's pretty amazing. I'm sorry but can any other organ cyclically renew its inner lining in preparation for hosting fetal development? Yeah, I didn't think so. Does this process come with an influx of hormones? Yes. Does that make me incapable of functioning as a rational human being and that you can invalidate my opinion? No.

Most advertisements for feminine hygiene products feature how worry free and clean you can be using their product. How awful is it to have to be worrying about being seen as 'clean' over something you can't control? When you go to the gym, you sweat and take a shower to clean yourself. Maybe it's been a hot day so you wash your face and use some deodorant. What do you do that causes your period? Nothing. You exist. There is no 'dirty' practice people do in order to get their periods. Yet it's seen as far less embarrassing to be sweaty or have pit stains than to be on your period or stain a pair of pants.

The difference is we all sweat (or just about everyone at least). Meanwhile not all of us have periods, and empathy is often a crucial ingredient for understanding. This is a man's world and in a man's world, women aren't worth much than to satisfy straight men, and straight men aren't interested in having sex with women on their period. No wonder it's a saying that women don't poop. Women just aren't allowed to be gross. Of course this fundamental aspect of the patriarchy isn't the prime example of everyone's reality. There are plenty of men who view women as full and complex human beings and those guys are awesome! However, the stigma against periods is engrained deep in society.

Being on my period means I can't have sex. It means I don't feel sexy, that I can't wear white pants. I can't play sports or go swimming. I don't feel capable. I'm too hormonal. I don't feel like I'm good company. I feel people aren't seeing me as reasonable. All of the sudden having your period goes from being a biological function to being something limiting, dirty, and shameful that we feel a need to hide. But sometimes you can't hide it and you shouldn't have to.

If menstruation weren't seen as such an awful state to be in, maybe little girls wouldn't be nervous about dealing with the curse when it was that time of the month, and female-bodied people could express discomfort without feeling embarrassed. Because at the end of the day, despite today's efforts to be perfect in every way, it's important to keep in mind that we all have bodies just doing body things and there's nothing wrong with that.

# ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

## J-Term Musical Celebrates 10 Years

By Leah Lavigne

Few Winter Term traditions enjoy as much student and community popularity as the J-term musical, started a decade ago by Town Hall Theatre (THT) Executive Director Doug Anderson and Department of Music faculty Carol Christensen. In celebration of its tenth anniversary season, Director Anderson and Music Director Christensen chose *Ragtime*, a sweeping portrait of early 20th century American life from three vastly different perspectives. Last year's ambitious production of *Les Misérables* involved over 60 students and sold out in three hours, and this year's selection, *Ragtime*, sold out in about a week.

Involving about 35 actors who mount a complete show in only three weeks, as well as 20 musicians under the direction of Opera Company of Middlebury Musical Director Emmanuel Plasson, *Ragtime* continues a tradition of excellence that has gained the J-term musical a reputation as one of the most popular events of the entire year, largely due to the unique resources available to the College through its partnership with THT.

"Middlebury is really very lucky to have two such amazing talents and teachers as Carol and Doug," two-time J-term musical veteran Jack DesBois '15 said. "It's something that I doubt many small liberal arts colleges have as a resource. It's the type of attention that you might get at a conservatory."

This year's production includes three visiting professional actors, a feature common to Theatre Department shows but brand new to the J-term musical. This addition to the cast brings a level of experience to the production that parallels and enhances the students' own intensive efforts.

"It's been really great working with these professionals," DesBois said. "We can talk with them in our free time about what the performing life is like for those of us who are potentially considering it."

Originally a novel of historical fiction written by American author E.L. Doctorow in 1975, *Ragtime* premiered on the Broadway stage in 1998 with a book by Terrence McNally, lyrics by Lynn Ahrens and music by Stephen Flaherty. Featuring huge names of musical theatre like Audra McDonald and Brian Stokes Mitchell, the original production garnered four Tony nominations for leading actors and an astonishing thirteen nominations overall. Though a critical smash, the show closed after only two years due to financial troubles largely attributed to the lavish \$11 million budget, which included features such as a working Model T automobile and fireworks in each performance.

"*Ragtime* includes a lot of historical figures and historical events in the storyline which makes it really interesting as an American. I'm learning about our own

history in a sort of modified way because Doctorow, Ahrens and Flaherty take great liberties with chronologies," DesBois said.

Despite its short run, nearly two decades later *Ragtime*'s timeless story and gorgeous, expansive score ensure that the production is a staple of the American musical theatre canon. Alternately following Jewish immigrants fighting the misery of tenement slums on the Lower East Side, a ragtime piano player in Harlem and upper-class residents of New Rochelle, *Ragtime* grapples with a distinctly American clash of cultures at the height of an era of national transformation.

"The interesting thing about this show is a lot of the characters are historical figures, like Booker T. Washington, and a lot of characters have names, and some of them don't," four-time J-term musical veteran Mike McCann '15 said. "You can interpret that as the writer basically using these characters as archetypes to represent the different viewpoints."

Musical styles within *Ragtime*, which includes a large number of solo and ensemble pieces, range from ragtime rhythms to klezmer styles of the Lower East Side to bold brass marches to period parlor songs, offering a taste of the multitude of prominent musical styles in the country at the beginning of the 20th century.

With only three intensive weeks to stage the show, students participating in the J-term musical undertake a grueling schedule of rehearsal five days a week in addition to building the set on the two Saturdays preceding the performance weekend.

DesBois, who directed the Spring 2014 Middlebury College Musical Players production of *RENT* and played the wolf in the 2013 J-term staging of *Into the Woods*, is taking on another leading role in *Ragtime* as Tateh, a Latvian Jewish immigrant to the Lower East Side in the early 1900's. As the focus of one of the three main story arcs, Tateh transitions from the struggle of developing a livelihood from his artistry to eventual success in his chosen field, providing ample acting challenges for DesBois as he worked to craft the nuances of his role in under three weeks.

"He's kind of two characters in act one and act two," he said. "After he's made it big he takes on a whole different persona, so there's a lot of drama with Tateh but also the opportunity to play the comedy when he's burlesquing and being over the top. This is challenging because one actor has to be able to get both of those aspects which are usually very separate types of theater, but it's been real fun for me."

McCann has held leading roles in *Hairspray*, *Into the Woods*, *Les Misérables*, and now *Ragtime*, in which he portrays a character simply known as father, the patriarch of the white, well-educated, upper-class storyline in the suburb of New



MAX KRAUS

Hannah Johnston '15.5 rehearses the role of Mother at the first orchestra rehearsal.

Rochelle. Father, who sells fireworks and other, as he describes them, 'accoutrements of patriotism' to immigrants eager to show their national pride, leaves the comfort of his family for extended periods of time to venture on quests of exploration. After returning from a real-life journey to the North Pole with Admiral Robert Peary, father finds his family dynamic turned upside down in ways he had never imagined.

"At first glance he is the one static character in the show, as his one defining characteristic is that he doesn't want anything to change," McCann said. "The most challenging thing about playing him is deciding if I'm supposed to be portraying him as unchanging or if I can somehow show that inner confusion and turmoil within him as he tries to keep his perfect life together. He's not one of the heroes of the story, but at the end he is definitely changed."

*Ragtime* is perhaps such an apt show for this year because its timeless themes of race relations and acceptance are particularly topical in the wake of the recent events in Ferguson, Mo. and Staten Island, N.Y., which have again thrust racial issues under the microscope of national attention.

"It's interesting how it deals with issues that are almost perpetually in the forefront of the American mind," DesBois said. "The book was written in the 70's in the wake of the Civil Rights movement, and it's still completely relevant today."

"I think a really cool, kind of interesting connection is one of the biggest numbers in the show after all of this violence and a great tragedy has occurred and the entire cast sings 'Till We Reach That Day' and it's about this great day in the future where there will be no more violence and there will be equality and justice for everyone," McCann added. "The thing is, we're still not there. It's over 100 years

from when this play was set, and we've come a long way, but we're still not there. There's still a lot of work to be done, and that's something that strikes home with the entire cast when we sing that song. It's a beautiful number."

Both DesBois and McCann have aspirations to enter the performing arts in some capacity when they graduate this spring, and their experiences working on the J-term musical have proved useful in shaping their future plans.

"It's definitely been a great experience to work on a professional schedule, which is what we're doing," DesBois said. "It's very helpful for gauging whether or not this lifestyle is for me, and I'm finding that I can handle this kind of grueling schedule, which is great."

Musical theatre is often only popular with a niche audience, but each J-term production has drawn students from all over campus as well as the larger community, and the quality of the musicals continue to amaze.

"We work really hard and we put on great shows," McCann said. "The reason the Town Hall Theater is able to do so many events is because people in this community love the arts so much. I think it's popular amongst students because it creates this intense, close community. You spend three weeks, six hours a day with the same people. You build closer friendships in those three weeks than you do in your entire college experience, and I will continue to tell people that it is great and that they should do it because it's terrific."

*Ragtime* opens tonight, Jan. 22 in the Town Hall Theatre at 8 p.m., and will have subsequent shows at 8 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 23 and Monday, Jan. 26, with a matinee performance at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 24. Tickets are sold out for each performance.



Emily Seavey '18, Mauli Whitney '17 and Lisa Wooldridge '16 help construct the set.

**DON'T  
MISS  
THIS**

### Off the Wall: Andy Warhol's Portraiture

Anthony Grudin, Assistant Professor of Art History at UVM, will talk about the museum's recent gift of 10 Warhol prints and how they fit within the context of the museum's collection and the artist's oeuvre.

1/23, 12:30 P.M., MCA 125

### Forbidden Planet

A starship crew goes to investigate the silence of a planet's colony, only to find two survivors and one deadly secret. Middlebury alumnus Dan Curry '68 will introduce the film. Sponsored by the Hirschfield International Film Series. Free.

1/24, 3 AND 8 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM

### Winter Term Studio Art Exhibition

Students exhibit work they produced during winter term, including photography, drawing, and painting. Sponsored by the Program in Studio Art. Free.

1/30 - 2/10, JOHNSON MEMORIAL BUILDING

# Technology is Driving Mike Daisey

By Elizabeth Zhou

In a society dominated by technology, it is oftentimes difficult to distinguish between what is possible and what is necessary. Critically-acclaimed monologist Mike Daisey brought this complicated question to the forefront of the audience's minds in *Faster Better Social*, a 75-minute performance on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 16 and 17 at the Wright Memorial Theater. Working around the theme of technology, Daisey engaged

the audience in a delightful, provocative and improvised speech on the evolution of the iPhone, the human species' transformation into cyborgs, his self-proclaimed addiction to his phone and everything in between.

Seated behind a desk onstage and swathed in a bright yellow spotlight, Daisey opened with a poignant remark: "We've reached a tipping point ... when we have to beg you to turn off phones before the show." He proceeded to announce, "This is kind of

an intervention. We're addicted together."

This tone of keen self-awareness and unapologetic honesty carried on through the rest of the performance, with Daisey conceding, "I'm a man of the times. Like you, I'd rather be on my phone." His admission drew laughs of understanding from the audience, but quickly segued into more uncomfortable truths about the relationship between humans and screens.

Despite the world of infinite possibilities available at our fingertips, Daisey expressed concern over the amount of control that technology can hold over us. From the feeling of anxiety that overcomes us when we are away from our phones for too long, to the overbearing ways of Facebook Messenger, which demands to have sound notifications turned on in order to function properly, he pointed out that the tool often seems to use us rather than the other way around.

During the post-performance talk with the artist on Saturday night, Daisey explained that his entire monologue arose from less than ten words' worth of notes that he had brought onstage. All of his speeches are improvised as such, leading to performances that feel like casual conversations with the audience. As Daisey put it, each monologue stems from "my conscious mind working in conjunction with my subconscious." Perhaps as a result of this, his storytelling followed no clear, linear path, but rather gave way to a series of entertaining tangents before coming full circle.

One such tangent centered on Daisey's attempt to raise a Tamagotchi pet – a "cursed creature," as he put it. His lengthy retelling of his disastrous experience left the audience in hysterics. "I tried to raise it with a lover," he said. "Much like a flip phone, it did one thing very well – create virtual shit."

Since Daisey's shows function more as spur-of-the-moment intellectual musings instead of pre-rehearsed speeches, his *Faster Better Social* monologues were radically different each night, with only a couple minutes' worth of overlapping material. Friday night's performance touched on social networking, oversharing, and loneliness, while Saturday's monologue focused on the phone's role as a portal to another reality.

"The smartphone collapses the universe into a field the size of a deck of playing cards, with an infinite number of cards," Daisey said. Following this, his hilarious frustrations with the Apple brand quickly came to light, as he described the first iPhone as "a fluid, beautiful interface" that ultimately proved to be "fundamentally horrible." Later on, he remarked of the iPhone 5, "The vibrations are only loud enough so that everyone can hear them."

Furthermore, the master storyteller

reflected on the changing nature of human connections in the age of the smartphone. The audience laughed along as he remarked on the absurdity of some newfound social norms – such as texting to ask for permission before calling someone, the struggle to sound engaged during phone calls and the use of "multiplatform harassment" to contact people when they prove unresponsive on one social networking medium. Beyond the funny reenactments and sarcasm-laced comments, however, Daisey provided a thought-provoking critique of humans' fumbling interactions via smartphones. As he noted, "Technology eliminates the fictional politeness that allows the real world to function."

Though Daisey called out some audience members for using their phones during the show ("I can see the glow on your faces," he pointed out amusedly), he displayed a stark relatability by making explicit his own obsession with technology. "If I give up my phone, I live a new, empowered life ... completely and utterly alone," he said seriously, acknowledging a fear undoubtedly felt by many young people today.

In the end, it is this relatability that caused Daisey's performance to resonate so deeply with the audience. By sharing his own struggles with his smartphone, he became a friend and trusted confidant for every single member of the audience. With each new confession, it grew abundantly clear that he was not there to judge, berate or guilt us for our obsessive, and arguably pathetic, habit of checking our texts every five minutes. (Indeed, he even commented near the end that he, too, was anxiously awaiting to reunite with his phone backstage.) Rather, his monologue served to inform, to reflect and above all, to question.

Despite the fact that his performance focused largely on the drawbacks of living with smartphones, never once did Daisey try to label technology as clearly good or bad. In fact, he ended with a positive insight, noting humans' potential to harness the tool for their own benefit, rather than fall prey to the endless bane of pinging notifications and useless posts.

"Our attention spans haven't changed," he said. "We choose how many interruptions we will have."

Throughout the impressively eloquent, improvised monologue, Daisey demonstrated a sharp wit and a profound societal awareness unparalleled by that of most other members of his generation. As our phones become bombarded by push notifications, text messages and ungodly loud vibrating sounds, may Daisey's words serve as a reminder to us all that the interplay between our virtual and real-world lives is largely within our control.



Storyteller Mike Daisey brought *Faster Better Social* to Wright Memorial Theater.

## BOOKING IT

BY GABRIELLE OWENS

Who doesn't love dragons? (Well, apart from Bilbo Baggins.)

Naomi Novik's rich and exciting *Temeraire* series is, at first, a basic concept. She writes about the Napoleonic Wars, but with dragons. Out of this simple premise Novik creates a complex, suspenseful and interesting world to explore. Although the series diverges from history at some points, it is clear Novik did her research. She successfully creates the atmosphere of an early 1800's Britain from the deck of a Navy ship to the halls of aristocracy, seamlessly waving in new layers to integrate the existence of dragons.

The focus of this review is the first book in the series, *His Majesty's Dragon*. It begins with the introduction of the protagonist, Captain William Laurence, a somewhat stiff-necked but devoutly loyal character. If not for happenstance, he would have been a largely unremarkable person in the grand scheme of things, as he possesses no special intelligence, inheritance or power, which makes for a refreshing change from the "chosen one" trope in fantasy and science fiction. This is not to say he is dull or underdeveloped as a character – to the contrary. He is wonderfully believable, as are most of Novik's characters. He comes from a fairly rich family and

serves in the Navy, basically happy with his lot in life. However, when his ship captures a dragon egg off of a French ship far from shore, he has to harness the newly hatched dragon, or it will not be serviceable in the British army. This makes him the dragon's captain, and so he is thrust into Britain's Aeriel Corps, a group normally restricted to those who began training at age seven. The dragon, which he names Temeraire, turns out to be exceptionally intelligent and impressive in battle, so Laurence and Temeraire become an invaluable part of Britain's defense against Napoleon.

Part of what makes this entire series brilliant is its world-building. The society is complex and realistic, filled with prejudice springing from misunderstanding on both sides. It does not confine itself to black-and-white situations or assign the majority of the human species a single viewpoint. The world is filled with characters who have varying opinions and degrees of open-mindedness, both inside the Corps and out. Laurence is an outsider to the Corps, but when he becomes a member he is also

largely outcast from his previous society, both in the Navy and at home, leaving him to drift between identities. This unique situation means that Laurence begins to question assumptions and traditions on both sides. Through him, Novik skillfully tears into both fantastical and real social prejudices and constructs. The intelligence of dragons and their place as more than brute beasts is one of the questions and themes this novel raises, but so is sexism,

especially in the military, as well as racism, colonialism and the problem of discipline versus innovation. Even the more fantastical debates would

be reasonably easy to apply to any number of real-life marginalized groups.

None of these social commentaries, however, are the focus of the novel. Issues and differences have to be set aside because Napoleon is a far more pressing matter, and although Napoleon is depicted as a villain and tyrannous invader, it is clear that British society is far from perfect. This is not a battle of good versus evil. Novik's particular brand of fantasy is a fully believable world that happens to include fanciful

### HIS MAJESTY'S DRAGON

BY NAOMI NOVIK

elements.

It is perfectly possible to sit back and enjoy *His Majesty's Dragon* as an exciting war novel. It does begin a bit slowly, with multiple chapters of Laurence slowly moving towards his training base as he stops to say goodbye to friends and muses about what is to come along the way. Once he reaches his training base there is also a significant amount of time spent simply introducing the readers to characters and concepts. It could have been condensed a bit, but it was still interesting to read and did a great deal to establish Laurence and Temeraire as characters and their relationship, which is central to the whole series. Once it does begin to reach the more action-packed scenes, it remains highly engaging without resorting to rapid pacing or cheap cliffhangers. The first book also effectively sets up for the continuation of the series, but is self-contained and a perfectly enjoyable read without committing to all nine books.

*His Majesty's Dragon* is a fantasy novel, but it is not genre fiction. It consciously avoids many of the more tired tropes and instead offers a truly well researched and well-planned original, complicated, convincing world. It is a fun, gripping story whether you typically enjoy fantasy or not.

## POLITICS OF POWER

By Cullen Coleman

"On Tuesday, January 13, about 45 people gathered in front of Mead Chapel for a 'rejection rally' against the Keystone XL pipeline, joining over 130 rejection rallies nationwide. Encouraged by 350.org and 350 Massachusetts, rallies took place all across the country in the wake of Nebraska's decision to allow the pipeline to pass through." - *The Middlebury Campus*, "Students and Vermonters Rally Against - and For - the XL Pipeline," Jan. 15

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For the last five years, since the commissioning of the Keystone XL pipeline, there has been spirited debate from every imaginable sector of the American public as to the pipelines benefits or lack thereof. As the 114th Congress prepares to push the pipeline through and President Obama threatens to veto any such order, it would appear that the debate is continuing its familiar path. However, one variable in the Keystone XL pipeline debate has changed since the issue came to the forefront of the news cycle: oil prices have undergone a sustained drop in price. So instead of picking an ideological side to the pipeline debate I am going to ask how lower oil prices affect the economic and emissions development of the Keystone XL pipeline.

Informed discussion has mainly revolved around the State Department Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS). Though the study concluded that the pipeline would not substantially increase greenhouse gas emissions, there was one major exception to this statement. If oil prices hovered around the \$65-\$75 a barrel range, then the reduction in transportation costs accrued from the pipeline would tip the economics of Canadian oil production from red to black — thus increasing emissions. Now that oil is currently in the \$45-\$55 a barrel this point of discussion seems meaningless.

However, it is not the current price of

### KEystone XL PIPELINE

oil that decides whether or not this project makes sense in terms of economics or emissions. It is the long-run price that determines the effect of a pipeline that could be in service for decades. The absolute impact of Keystone XL on both price and emissions depends on how global producers and consumers react to the oil price increase or decrease caused by the pipeline's completion or lack thereof.

Lower oil prices reduce both the costs and the benefits of approving the Keystone XL pipeline by reducing the odds that it will ever be fully built or used. If prices are kept at their current low level, there is a very small chance that the Keystone XL pipeline will never get built because of the economics. This is highly unlikely though, because if Canadian production does not grow, the chances of sustained low prices decreases. The more realistic possibility is that the pipeline is approved and utilized. In this case, lower oil prices reduce the economic benefits without changing the climate effects of the pipeline.

However, the biggest takeaway from this debate is that both the climate damages and the economic benefits from Keystone XL are small in the grand scheme of climate change and the U.S. and global economies. A Keystone XL decision will not drastically alter the current science behind climate change or drastically affect the U.S. economy. The debate says more about how we as a nation feel about the economy and climate change than what the science or economics says about this topic.

By Leah Lavigne

J-term is generally recognized as a time for intensive academic exploration of typically non-traditional subjects, and the unique format of the four-week semester allows for a variety of options not present during a full semester. This year, Isaac Baker '14.5 is spending his last J-term leading a student-taught course, 'Microgrid Feasibility Study,' with a small group of 13 students.

A microgrid is a smaller, more localized version of the larger power grid that brings distributed energy resources like wind, solar and natural gas closer to where energy is being used. In this case, the larger power grid in the area is operated by Green Mountain Power (GMP), which currently supplies approximately 80 percent of the College's electrical demand.

The creation of a microgrid would allow the College's electrical system to better withstand extreme climate events because the microgrid can operate as an island, called 'islanding,' allowing the community to operate independently without the larger grid in emergency situations. Energy for this kind of scenario could be generated by the biomass plant, which accounts for the other 20 percent of the College's electrical needs, and a large part of the course is based on research of other sustainable energy methods to meet needs in the case of a major disaster like an ice storm.

Since microgrids encourage efficiency — production and transportation of energy from hundreds miles away allows for 30 percent of energy burned to reach the College, while microgrids would allow a 70 to 80 percent return — they create financial incentive to build solar panels or invest in other areas of renewable resources. The utility company provides a more marginal service in with this infrastructure.

The idea, which is steeped in academic grounding, first struck Baker while attending the Middlebury College School of the Environment in the summer of 2014, and it developed during a follow-up independent study this fall as he simultaneously crafted an application to teach the J-term course.

"I came out of the summer really jazzed about this idea and the resilience of the college energy system," Baker said. "I know that there was a student-led course last winter, 'A People's History of Middlebury,' but this was the only other student-led course I had ever heard of at the College. I was really inspired by this kind of alternative, activist-y history that people were really into. So I thought, let's take that and do something else with it."

The process of submitting an application is relatively simple, with interested students treated much like visiting professors with the exception of a twelve-student enrollment cap and the involvement of a faculty advisor. Interested students, who are usually upperclassmen, speak with the registrar in the fall to express interest in the option. Baker tried to be realistic in his academic goals, especially knowing that his topic relied heavily on a lot of information not yet obtained.

"I spent the fall interviewing consultants and experts who have been involved in this sort of thing for years. The end goal is a conceptual design, where we spend four weeks and hopefully by the end we get to what I call the 10 percent plan. We can't build a micro-grid with only the information we have because there's knowledge that we lack and a lot of work that hasn't been done. The goal is to reach the next step and hand it off to a consulting firm who would look at it and say 'Let's see how the rubber hits the road and get you to 80 percent.'

As the idea percolated in Baker's

## SCIENCE SPOTLIGHT: MICROGRID COURSE

mind, he was concurrently reading about the history of carbon neutrality on campus through the efforts of many of the founders of 350.org, a group committed to cutting carbon and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions founded by Bill McKibben and students in 2007. This group created a 'Midd Shift Report,' which went to the Board of Trustees and led to the adoption of carbon-neutrality goals completely driven as a result of student efforts. In his desire to envision the future of carbon neutrality once it has been achieved, Baker eagerly took the opportunity to teach a course less about grades and more about ideas.

Instead of opting for a more traditional lecture-discussion format like that used in last year's student-led course, Baker wanted to draw on his experience with horizontal leadership and project-oriented campaign planning with Sunday Night Group (SNG), creating a forum where all participants were viewed as equals.

"The actual amount of me just writing information on the board is a very small percentage of class," Baker said. "Most of it is facilitating discussion or calling on and helping other people share research they've done with the rest of the group. Really they're the ones doing the work, they're the ones creating this."

Zach Berzolla '18 decided to take the course because he wanted to explore innovative, alternative energy options for the College.

"We've been looking at some of the stuff going on at other campuses, and most schools are doing it because it makes pure financial sense," Berzolla said. "We're hoping to approach it with a little bit more of an environmental twist. If we go ahead and find some sort of renewable resource, ours will, to my knowledge, be pretty unprecedented, because very few are set up where the entire microgrid is renewable. Most have mixes and are based on fossil fuels."

Baker has been pleasantly surprised by the initiative taken by the students. About half of the students in the course worked with Baker independently in the fall in the national "SparkCleanEnergy" innovation competition to design a grid resilience API, winning third place, a \$1,000 prize and a trip for two students to the ARPA-E Innovation Summit in Washington D.C. Through this team-based project on grid resilience, these students became more energized and confident about furthering their research on the topic.

"They are pulling from many disciplines and previous experiences. For example, some students have brought in

some research on distributive generation that I hadn't even thought of," he said.

Berzolla explained that the class dynamic in the course extends beyond the usual class meetings.

"Our class ends at 4 but we always stay longer," Berzolla said. "Conversations always continue. Class ends but things don't really end."

Though Baker has spent the better part of half a year carefully planning the course, he has adapted to unplanned challenges as they arise. Baker had assumed that implementing community guidelines would be an easy, intuitive process, but navigating group dynamics is always tricky, and Baker has adapted the curriculum to facilitate a comfortable environment for all class members.

"It's so easy to just drift through a class and not really see the people you're there with," Baker said. "Forming an academic and intellectual community is really hard to do, so I think on a broad level what I'm most happy about is that people are really connecting. We're spending time with each other inside of and outside of class in these formal and informal settings that are allowing people to get to know each other really well. It's really special knowing that after I've graduated I'll have people I have shared a really important part of my college experience with."

Instead of instilling passion in students for only four or twelve weeks, the unique design of Baker's course is inspiring long-term involvement among younger participants. Berzolla is passionate about the opportunity to stay with this project throughout his time at the College.

"For me, and I think a lot of the other freshman, this will be our baby going forward," he said. "This is something we worked on and proposed and it's something we want to see get done."

"I think it's something we will all be passionate about. It will take time, but my hope is that we will see it happen while we're here," Berzolla said.

During the final week of the course, on Wednesday, Jan. 28, students in the course will present their original research on college infrastructure, information on the 10 percent conceptual plan, how other students can get involved and how the project will manifest in the future. Taking place at 4 p.m. in the Orchard Room of Hillcrest, the final presentation will be open to the community, with snacks provided by the Campus Sustainability Coordinators (CSCs).

In the coming weeks, Baker will be meeting with a variety of professors to discuss how smaller pieces of the puzzle he has been exploring can be integrated in the curriculum of other classes in the spring. His next meeting is with Professor of Psychology Michelle McCauley to discuss her spring 2015 Environmental Psychology course.



ZACH BERZOLLA  
Students in the microgrid J-term course explored new energy options for campus.

# Dumb Waiter Plays on More than Words

By Arnav Adhikari

There are few better or more interesting ways of dealing with Harold Pinter's work than handing it over to a group of improv comedians. The complexity and confusion of language, the situational farce, the importance of timing and the general feeling of burgeoning absurdity that come inevitably attached to Pinter's plays could create an exciting space for this weekend's staging of *The Dumb Waiter* at the Hepburn Zoo. Three members of the College's own improv comedy group Middlebrow are taking on an adaptation of one of the more popular early works of the acclaimed British playwright and Nobel Prize winner.

First staged in 1960, *The Dumb Waiter* is a one-act two-man play that follows two hitmen, Ben and Gus, as they wait — like most popular absurdist characters tend to do — in a sparse windowless basement for their next assignment. In a room filled with empty space, vague objects and a mysterious, lurking dumbwaiter (a small elevator used for transporting food and dishes between levels of a building), the action or lack thereof unfolds through Pinter's masterful breakdown of language and logic. The longer the hitmen await their instructions, the more they tend to dwell on the seemingly mundane, discussing newspaper articles, complaining about dysfunctional flush tanks and arguing over the semantics of the correct verb form of "putting on the kettle."

Pinter creates a wormhole in which reason and linear narrative are meshed into a shapeless form, punctuated with repetitive symbols like the constant movement of the dumbwaiter, seemingly unable to communicate with Ben and Gus as much as they are unable to communicate with each other. Despite its complexities, *The Dumb Waiter* is not

short of any of twists, turns and entertainment; it comes with an air of lingering suspense, uncontrollably hilarious moments and a shocking revelation at the end.

Director Melissa MacDonald '15 says she chose the play last summer, specifically for its strange sense of humour and structural idiosyncrasies.

"I really enjoy working within the format and structure of the comedy in this play. Obviously we do a lot of comedy work in Middlebrow, but it's often two to three minute sketches where we create our own rhythms and patterns," she said.

"I wanted to direct a play like *The Dumb Waiter* that is contingent on its own specific patterns because it's something that I've never really done before."

Actor Luke Smith-Stevens '14.5 noted the importance of avoiding the over-intellectualization of such a studied play.

"Our process has been about the balance between close reading, keeping it natural and continuing to play with the text," he said.

MacDonald did a lot of background work to help contextualize and understand Pinter's unique writing style against works like *Waiting For Godot* by Samuel Beckett.

"The role of silence for me is a definitive aspect of this play" she says. "We actually spent one rehearsal in complete silence for over thirty-five minutes in preparation."

It's no surprise then that both Smith-Stevens and Alexander Khan '17, playing Ben and Gus respectively, are able to rehearse and react at a level of total ease with each other. Their work with Middlebrow strongly influenced their creative process for this production.

"We are very comfortable with each other because we know our individual comedic styles and how we play off each other, so we can morph to new choices on the spot," Khan said. "Our experience working together gives us the freedom to make big — and subtle — choices."

Even in an accelerated rehearsal schedule like this, we're constantly trying new things knowing that the other will throw the ball back to you," Smith-Stevens added.

Although they have been conceptualizing the play since the fall, the actual rehearsal process began only at the start of J-term, and the cast, while well aware of the challenges of such a time frame, is excited to finally open this weekend.

"The biggest challenge besides time has been navigating Pinter's physical cues and construction of space," MacDonald said. "He'll often write in stage directions in some places and then nothing for the rest of the play; the stage and design elements have also been difficult to set up in such a short amount of time."

"Just the basic fact that this is a two man show has been pretty challenging," Smith-Stevens added. "It's not like

other plays where you can work different scenes and come back to problematic ones late. This one is all about pushing through and understanding the stitches and seams as much as the fabric of the play itself."

The glittering sense of excitement amongst the company is palpable, and everyone is eager to put up a show of this nature as part of the independent theatre scene on campus, which Smith-Stevens — graduating at the end of the month — has seen grow in both scale and quality in his time at the College.

"The most memorable experiences I've had in theatre have been in student productions; I think it speaks to the willingness to take advantage of the resources here and the eagerness to work hard on putting up small projects and hopefully feel how rewarding the experience is," he said.

Over the last few years, the Zoo has been a bastion for hosting diverse, independent student run productions, and *The Dumb Waiter* most definitely has the potential to be an entertaining and evocative highlight. It promises to be a show packed with questions both surreal and utterly human, and with humour that is explosively funny as well as tragic. If not for any cultural inclination, go watch the show to hear Smith-Stevens and Khan tackle British accents, which they joke somewhat reassuringly, is in keeping with the absurdity of the play.

*The Dumb Waiter* runs this weekend at the Hepburn Zoo on Jan. 23 and 24, with shows at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. on Friday and at 8 p.m. on Saturday. The show stars Smith-Stevens and Khan, and is directed by MacDonald, stage managed by Ella Rohm-Ensing '18 and designed by Tosca Giustini '15.5, Kate Eisenman '15, Bjorn Peterson '15.5, and Ben Rose '17.5.

## Dance Company of Middlebury by the Numbers

1 Technician  
4 Choreographers  
7 Student Dancers

124+  
Years of collective  
experience



1356+  
collective  
performances



5  
months  
of rehearsal



1  
Performance in NYC

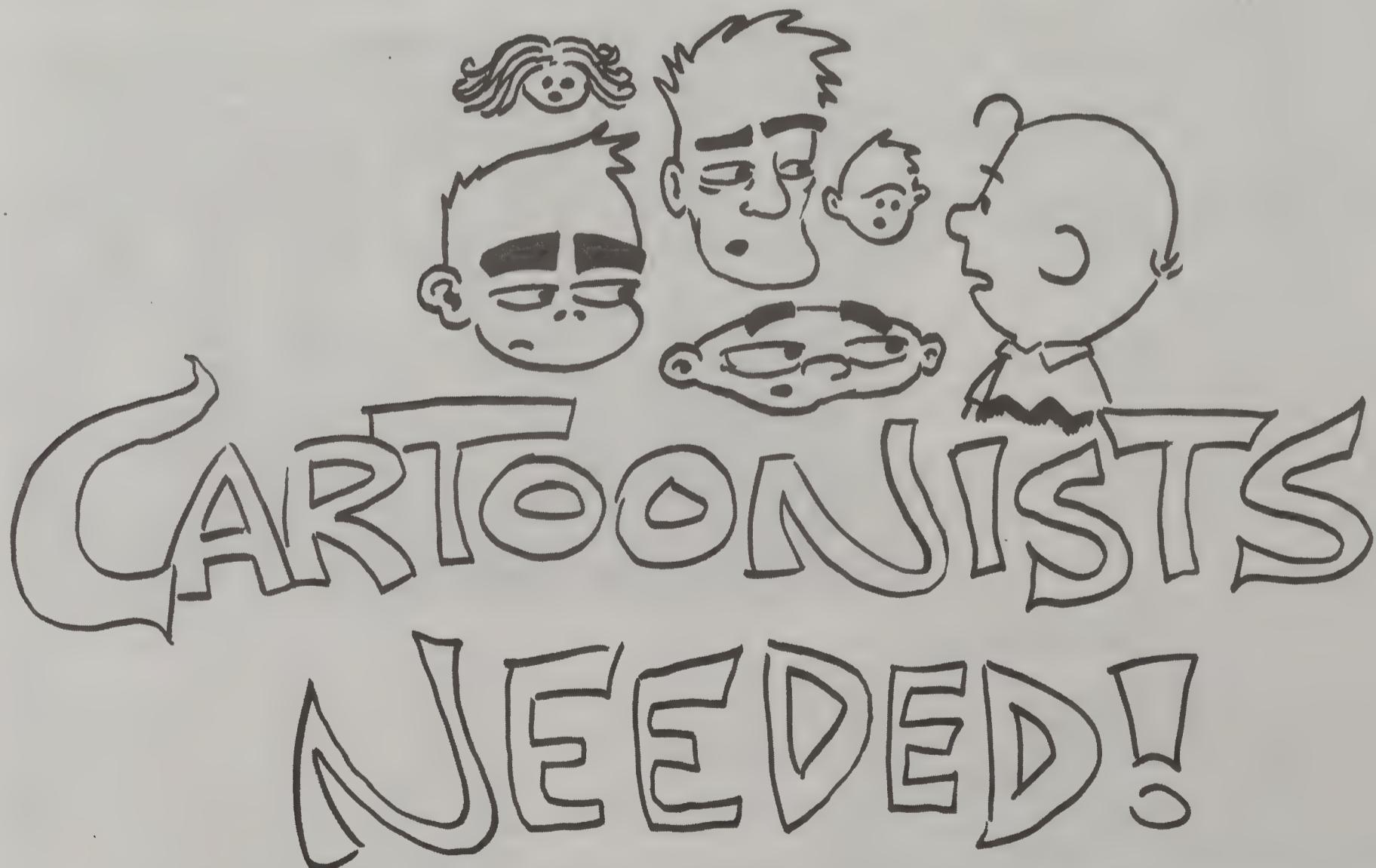
2  
Performances at Midd

Cost of experience? \$6

Value of experience: infinite

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# Men's Hoops Earns Two Conference Wins

By Andrew Riga

Middlebury (13-2, 2-2) has now rattled off four straight wins, including two in-conference over Wesleyan and Conn. College.

For much of the first half on the road at Castleton St. on Tuesday, Jan. 13, neither team could distinguish itself from the other as the Panthers jumped out to an early lead before the Spartans responded with a 7-0 run to take a 14-12 lead.

Middlebury slowly began to extend its lead behind a balanced scoring effort. By the end of the first half, Middlebury had established a 46-38 lead. Connor Huff '16 tallied 11 points while grabbing five offensive rebounds, and Matt St. Amour '17 added 10 points while assisting on five baskets.

The Panthers announced themselves as the better team on that night with a 13-0 run over a span of two minutes early in the second half capped by a dunk and three-pointer from Dylan Sinnickson '15 to give them a 61-41 lead. When time expired, the Panthers secured a 94-56 victory, outscoring the Spartans 48-18 in the second half.

The Spartans only recorded three made bas-

kets in the second half, shooting a dreadful 10.7 percent from the field. Middlebury scored 26 second chance points, and assisted on 26 of its 32 baskets.

"We are best when we are in transition and that has been the main focus of our team," St. Amour said.

Huff scored a career-high 20 points to lead the Panthers, while Sinnickson scored 17 points and just missed out on another double-double with nine rebounds.

In the first nine minutes against Wesleyan on Friday, Jan. 16, there was no indication the Panthers would run away with the contest as they trailed 14-13 at the 11:22 mark. Beginning with a transition dunk by Matt Daley '16, the Panthers went on an 11-0 run to take a 10-point lead and force Wesleyan to take a timeout. The Panthers closed out the half with a decisive 27-10 run, including a 35-footer at the buzzer for St. Amour, giving them a 51-24 lead heading into the break.

With Middlebury on pace for more than one hundred points at the halfway point, guards St. Amour (12 points) and Jake Brown '17 (11 assists) keyed the Panther offense, while the team's defense forced more turnovers (10) than

the field goals it allowed (eight).

A 25-10 Middlebury run to begin the second half squashed Wesleyan's hopes of a comeback and gave the Panthers a 76-34 lead. Middlebury went on to secure their second lopsided victory of the week, 97-60.

St. Amour led the team in scoring with 20, Sinnickson added 19 points and 11 rebounds for a double-double and Jake Brown tallied 14 assists for a new career high.

Middlebury returned to the court on Sunday to play 7-7 Conn. College. From the opening tip, it was clear that the Panthers were not going to score more than 90 points for the third straight game. The team opened the game making only one shot of its first nine and quickly fell behind 9-2, culminating in a team timeout by Coach Brown. His team responded with a 7-0 run sparked by a Hunter Merryman '15 three to tie the game. The game see-sawed to a 22-21 Conn. College lead, before Merryman was fouled shooting another three and sank three free throws to give his team a two point lead and ignite another 9-0 Panther run. At the end of the first half, the Panthers held a 32-25 lead.

Leading by six with 7:45 left on the clock, the Panthers went on another one of their patented

9-0 runs to take a 15-point lead, but the Camels battled back.

Conn. College's Sean McNally converted an old-fashioned three point play off a Jake Brown turnover to pull his team within four, 58-54, with 33 seconds left. The Camels were forced to foul to extend the game, but the Panthers answered the call, making five out of six from the stripe to seal a 63-59 win for the Panthers.

The team's solid defensive effort won the game as it held the Camels to 32.4 percent shooting and forced 15 turnovers, turning those miscues into 12 points on the other end.

"Coach Brown gave us the challenge of being the best FG defense in the country," St. Amour said, "coming into the weekend we were number 2. Our defense allows us to win games even when we don't shoot well, which is definitely a key for us."

Merryman recorded a double-double with 15 points and 12 rebounds, while Bryan Jones '17 tallied 11 off the bench on 4-5 shooting.

On Tuesday, Jan. 20, Middlebury blew out Johnson St., 102-54, behind Sinnickson's 21 points and eight boards and Jake Brown's 16 points and seven rebounds. In all, 13 players contributed points to the offensive explosion.

# Women's Basketball Grabs Another NESCAC Win

By Joe MacDonald

The Middlebury women's basketball team (10-7, 2-2) garnered its second conference victory of the year with a thrilling

## THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT 8

RANKING	CHANGE	TEAM	Fritz's Fancies
1		NEW FIELD HOUSE	I played with the athletic history screen for a full hour.
2		MEN'S BASKETBALL	This team is trending positively after a pair of wins. Can they keep it up?
3		SKIING	Top D-III school at the Bates Carnival.
4		MEN'S HOCKEY	Just when we thought they were down for the count, the men surprised us.
5		SWIM & DIVE	Union isn't the toughest competition, but wins are wins.
6		WOMEN'S HOCKEY	I would have liked to see them separate themselves from Amherst. Next time.
7		TRACK & FIELD	A few decent results, but they've got some work to do.
8		SQUASH	Tough competition, but none of those matches were close.

## MEN'S HOCKEY NOTCHES BIG WINS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

a number of key saves, including an acrobatic diving save which closed off what looked to be an easy empty-net goal for Norwich. Not a single of Norwich's 25 shots made it into the Middlebury goal as Klein picked up the first shutout of his college career.

This victory snapped a nine-game Middlebury losing streak to Norwich that has stretched back to the 2008-2009 season, and helped Middlebury improve its record this season to 6-6-2.

The Panthers were dominant on the penalty kill all weekend, killing off all

50-46 victory at Wesleyan on Friday night, Jan. 16. The Panthers remained on the road and took to the floor against Conn. College on Sunday afternoon, Jan. 17, playing hard but ultimately falling 54-35. Middlebury then slipped up again on the road at Smith College on Tuesday, Jan. 20, losing 65-59.

The classic battle between Middlebury and Wesleyan was close throughout, as the lead never extended beyond six for either team. The difference in the game was the Panthers' defense.

Sabrina Weeks '18 led Middlebury in points with 13 and matched Elizabeth Knox '17 for the team high with 10 rebounds. With the 13-and-10 performance Weeks notched her first career double-double. Knox and Sarah Kaufman '18 also

chipped in 10 points for the Panthers.

With 7:46 left in the game, Weeks converted an old-school three-point play to put Middlebury up 40-38. The Panthers never let Wesleyan tie the game again, just keeping the Cardinals at bay. Kaufman scored the game-winning basket with a bucket in the lane off of a pass from Knox to make it 48-44. Kaufman pushed the score to 50-46 with a made free throw in the final seconds.

"Every team in the NESCAC is talented," said Weeks, "so getting a second conference win was big for us and was a good step in proving that when we play together we can compete with anyone."

Middlebury entered halftime during its Sunday contest with Conn. College down just eight, but the Camels outscored the

Panthers 24-5 over the final 11:16 of play to win the game by 19. Middlebury led just once, with 15:23 left in the second half, when Rachel Crews '15 sank two free throws to take the lead 27-26.

Crews led Middlebury with 13 points. Kaufman and Knox also scored in double figures with 12 and 10, respectively.

On Tuesday, Jan. 20 Smith topped the Panthers for the second time this season, despite double-digit points from Weeks, Crews and Kaufman.

"Our focus each and every day is to get better and play as a team," said Head Coach KJ Krasco, "Some days we are able to do this better than others. But instilling the attitude of no matter what happens we still need to work to get better each day has been our motto for the season."

## Squash Competes in Turnney at Yale

By Will Case

Last weekend marked the halfway point of the season for Middlebury squash. Both the men's and women's teams entered the Yale Round Robin a combined 12-2, both of those losses occurring all the way back on Nov. 16 against perennial power Trinity. Unfortunately, the men's side dropped matches against number-five Columbia and number-17 George Washington, while the women went winless against number-nine Columbia, number-four Yale and number-seven George Washington University.

Despite the disappointments last week at Yale, optimism remains high for both the men and the women.

"Leadership's been great," Interim Coach Mike Morgan said. "Robert [Galluccio '15] and Reed [Palmer '15] have done a fantastic job [for the men's side]. Same goes for Annie [Wymard '15] and Charlotte [Dewey '15]. They bring experience and focus that has helped tremen-

dously with [each team's] growth."

Growth is important because of the youth on both sides. Five players regularly in the lineup on the men's team are underclassmen: two first-years and three sophomores. The women's side, at times, plays with as many as four first-years in the lineup.

Morgan added that the leadership of experienced players across the board helps guide younger players.

"The wisdom that [our captains] bring helps us when we go into a place like Yale. The first years could be overwhelmed by the situation or the competition. Thanks to our older guys that doesn't happen."

The experienced Galluccio indicated that the team forms a genuine bond that ensures every player is on the same page.

"From our team hike at the beginning of the year, to just hanging out or going to movies, we're a tight knit group on and off the court," Galluccio said. "We push each other to succeed and enjoy the challenge of striving for our goals."

The program's goals remain lofty, as both teams have set their mark on winning the "B" division cups at the end of the season. But given the success they have enjoyed to this point, there is no reason to temper expectations. The teams are taking a day-by-day, match-by-match approach.

"Anything can happen," Morgan said. "A couple things go off, a team gets hot, has a great day. Being focused on every match and every day, without losing focus of the long-term goals is our approach."

The team exuded confidence heading into the weekend in New Haven, and although the trip didn't produce victories, there are many positives each team gained from the experience. The challenge presented at the Yale Round Robin better prepares each team for Middlebury's own round robin tournament this weekend and an important stretch on the horizon for the Panthers.

The Panthers are prepared and determined to overcome these obstacles in their run at winning the "B" cups.

## PANTHER SCOREBOARD

MEN'S HOCKEY vs. Norwich

3-0 W

Panther first-year goaltender made 25 saves in the win.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Conn. College 54-35 L

Middlebury's offense stalled and Conn. took advantage.

MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Conn. College 63-59 W

The team improves to 12-2 after earning two NESCAC wins.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Amherst

1-1 T

A late Panther goal sent the game to a scoreless overtime against ninth-ranked Amherst.

MEN'S SWIMMING &amp; DIVING vs. Union 122-119 W

A relay victory pushed the men's team past Union to earn their fourth consecutive win.

# O'Keefe Takes Cycling National Crown

By Fritz Parker

On Saturday, Jan. 10, Middlebury cycling club member Sam O'Keefe '16.5 raced to a national championship in cyclocross, taking home the Division-II collegiate championship at the USA Cycling National Championships, which took place at Zilker Park in Austin, TX. O'Keefe returned to the course two days later to finish sixth in the USA Under-23 championship, earning a spot on the national team for the 2015 UCI Cyclocross World Championships, to be held in Ta-

bor, Czech Republic later in January.

Cyclocross is a form of bicycle racing in which competitors must navigate tight turns and other obstacles — including iconic portions during which they must carry their bicycles up steep slopes — as they complete a series of short laps. Cyclocross races are typically held in the fall, when racers have time off from road racing.

O'Keefe came to cyclocross from mountain biking, in which he started competing at the age of 12. While he

continues to compete in road racing competitions during the summer, he has dedicated his fall season to competing in cyclocross races, with the ultimate goal of finishing highly at the national championship.

"The national championship is really everyone's goal," O'Keefe said.

Saturday's race divided collegiate competitors into two divisions representing large and small colleges and universities. Representing Middlebury, O'Keefe was placed in Division II against competition from familiar schools like Tufts and M.I.T., as well as racers from cycling powerhouses Brevard College and Milligan College.

Rain in advance of the race meant that the racers were forced to contend with muddy conditions throughout the race.

"From the beginning I just went as hard as I could and tried to ride smoothly," O'Keefe said. "If the race conditions are really physically uncomfortable, you're forced to just do it, to finish at all costs. I didn't want to get caught up in a really tactical race, or get messed up by other people's errors."

The tactic paid off, as O'Keefe was able to separate himself from the field and hold on to win in a time of 59:27 — nearly two minutes ahead of the second-place finisher.

Back on the same course for Monday's U23 national championship, O'Keefe finished in a remarkably similar time of 59:23, good for the sixth and final qualifying spot on the national squad.

As a member of Team USA, O'Keefe will travel to the Netherlands later this month to compete in a tune-up race before moving on to the Czech Republic for the U23 World Championship on Jan. 31. That race will pit O'Keefe and his teammates against the top young cyclocross talent from cycling hotbeds like Belgium and the Netherlands. Americans have not historically been competitive in the World Championships, but O'Keefe will

be aided by his experience racing in Europe over winter break.

In the meantime, O'Keefe will be training on campus as he prepares for the big race.

"Right now I'm working hard to catch up on schoolwork this week and getting ahead for the week of the race," he said. "I'll also be training up until the race with a combination of riding my bike on a stationary mount and running."

After he returns from Europe, O'Keefe says that he'll enjoy some down time before road racing picks up during the summer months.

"I'm looking to chill out, do some cross country skiing and eat a ton of chocolate before the road racing season," he said.

As for his overall goals in the sport of cyclocross, O'Keefe cites his involvement with the Middlebury cycling club as one of his primary motivators.

"I'm super happy to bring one home for Middlebury," he said. "No one within the sport really knew about the school. I'm hoping that this national championship win will help build support for the cycling club here at Middlebury."

Remo Plunkett contributed reporting to this article.



A very muddy Sam O'Keefe '16.5 celebrates his victory in the collegiate Division-II Cyclocross National Championships, held in Zilker Park in Austin, TX on Friday, Jan. 10.

COURTESY SAM O'KEEFE

## BY THE NUMB3RS

**2** National rank for the Norwich men's hockey team, who fell to the Panthers by a score of 3-0 in Saturday night's home matchup.

**0.03** Seconds separating Rob Cone '17 from a first-place finish in Saturday's slalom race hosted by Bates.

**9** Double-doubles recorded by men's basketball player Dylan Sinnickson '15

**14** Total number of events won by the Middlebury men's and women's swimming and diving teams in their head-to-head meet versus Union.

**.930** Current save percentage for rookie men's hockey goaltender Stephen Klein '18.

# Panther Runners Compete in NYC Meet

By Bryan Holtzman

On Friday, Jan. 16, the track teams traveled to New York City to run in the Gotham Cup at the historic Armory track. The meet featured top NCAA Division-I teams and professional athletes, giving the Panthers a chance to square off against some of the best athletes from around the country.

On the women's side, Alex Morris '16 made her season debut in the 400-meter dash after studying abroad in the fall in Uruguay, racing to a time of 61.20 seconds. Right behind her was first-year Kate McCluskey '18, who finished in 61.27 seconds.

Morris, a two-time All-American and individual NCAA qualifier in the 400 meters, commented on her first race back.

"I didn't really have many expectations for this race," she said. "For me, it was a way to start getting back to the level I was last year and almost try to race myself back into shape. It was helpful not just physically, but mentally as well because now I know where I am and can only move forward."

"Practice has definitely been a reality check," Morris said. "I tried to keep up with the workouts as much as possible when I was abroad, but life often got in the way. There's not a feeling I love more than really training hard and feeling like I'm making progress. I'm

most excited to be back and see where the rest of the season goes."

In other sprinting events, Paige Fernandez '17 and Perri Silverhart '16 both competed in the 500 meters, finishing in 1:19.86 and 1:22.23 respectively. Gigi Miller '18 was Middlebury's top finisher in the women's 60 meters, crossing the line in 8.65 seconds.

A small contingent of distance runners made their season debuts in New York as well. Most notably, Sasha Whittle '17 competed in the mile, running 5:23.99 while winning her heat by more than 10 seconds. In the field, Maddie Pronovost '17 had her second good meet in a row, jumping 4 feet 11 inches in the high jump and a personal record 16 feet 10.75 inches in the long jump.

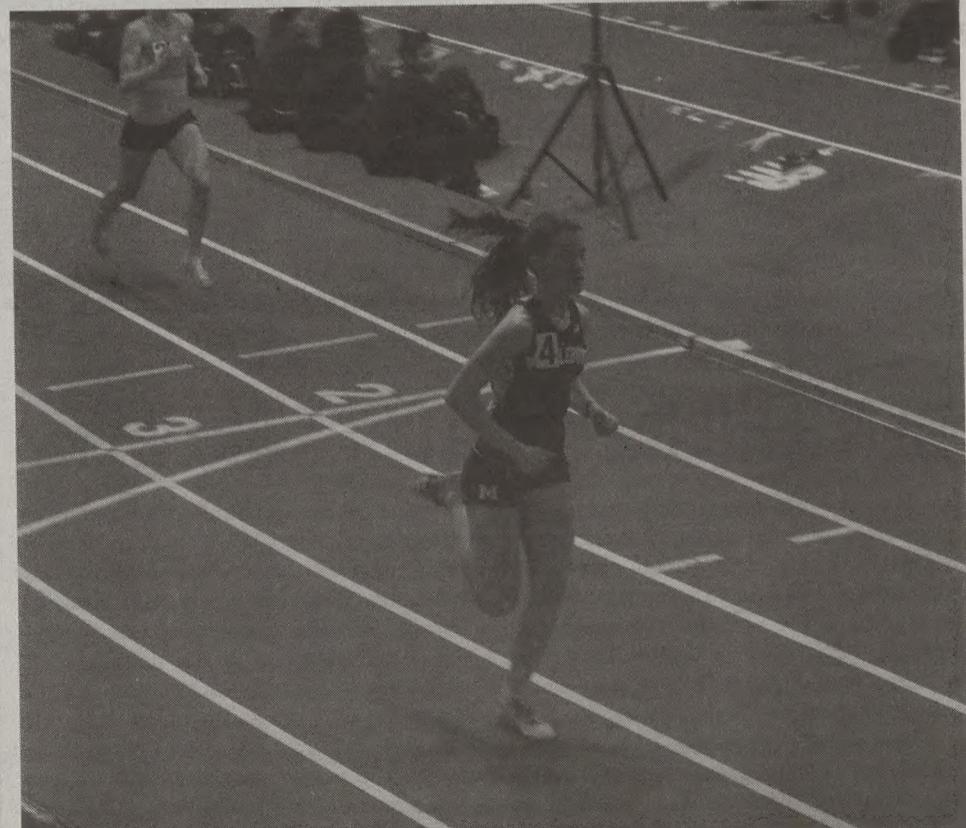
For the men, Will Bain '15 led the sprinters in the 60-meter dash, running 7.19 seconds — slightly off his mark of 7.15 from the previous week. Captain Fritz Parker '15 cut more than a second off his 400-meter time from the previous week, finishing the dastardly distance in 51.58 seconds.

The men also had distance runners make their debuts in New York. Wilder Schaaf '14.5 opened his season in the mile with a run of 4:23.29. Schaaf, an NCAA qualifier in the event with his personal best of 4:10.98, started his season last year by running 4:30, so his improved result is indicative of more fast times to come later in the season.

Accompanying Schaaf in the mile was Panther assistant coach Jack Davies '13, who took a fourth-place finish in 4:14.08, continuing his trend of never losing a race to Schaaf. Luke Carpinello '16 just broke the two-minute mark in the 800 meters, running 1:59.73.

The teams were originally scheduled to host Virtue Field House's inaugural

meet on Friday, Jan. 23, but construction delays have led to the meet's cancellation. The teams will take the weekend off from competition before hosting the Middlebury Invitational on Jan. 31, which will take the place of the cancelled meet as the inaugural competition in the new indoor track facility.



TYLER FARRELL  
Paige Fernandez '17 sprints through the line of the 500-meter run during the New York City Gotham Cup, held at the New Balance Track and Field Center on Friday, Jan. 16.

# Swim Teams Top Union on the Road

By Emily Bustard

In an away meet last weekend on Saturday, Jan. 17, the Middlebury men's and women's Swimming and Diving teams outscored Union College in Schenectady, NY. The women sped to an easy 149.5-86.5 victory, adding to a 6-2 record on the season, while the men (4-4) continued their 4-meet winning streak, edging the Dutchmen 122-119 by just three points.

A victory in the opening event set the women's team up for more success as the crew of Sarah Bartholomae '18, Jamie Hillas '15, Megan Griffin '16, and Morgan Burke '17 clocked a 1:50.92 to win the 200 medley relay.

As reflected by their high overall score, the women recorded many first-place finishes, including Jennifer Koide '17's finishes in both the 200 individual medley (2:15.82) and the 200 breaststroke (2:29.93) along with Jamie Sawyer '16's finish in the 200 butterfly (2:13.21).

In fact, the women swept every free-style event except for the 50 free, with wins by Burke in the 100 freestyle (54.44), Hillas in the 200 freestyle (1:58.95), Elinor Reinhardt '17 in the 500 freestyle (5:27.20), Kelly Delane '18 in the 1000 freestyle (11:05.02), and finally, Hillas, Burke, Stephanie Andrews '18, and Courtney Haron '15 in the 200 freestyle relay (1:40.27).

Matthew Lantin '18 again managed to win both 200 free (1:47.23) and the 500 free (4:45.70), while Michael McGean '17 also earned a first place finish for the men in the 1000 free (9:59.86). Senior captain Teddy Kuo '15 led his heat in the 200 butterfly (2:01.36) to earn nine points.

The swimmers with second, third, and even fourth-place performances made especially valuable contributions on the men's side. Every point counted, including the total of 10 points accumulated by Dylan Peters '16 and Adrianna Baker '15 in the one and three-meter diving competitions. So when it came time for the last event, the 200 freestyle relay, the men's team was trailing by six points.

"We were all really pumped because we knew that if we won that relay we would win the whole meet," said Taylor Moore '18, who swam the first leg. Luckily, Moore, Noel Antonisse '17, Andrew Lee '15, and Paul Lagasse '16 touched the wall with a time of 1:29.37 to win the event and the meet.

The Panthers will host Williams Swimming and Diving in a dual meet this Saturday, Jan. 24 at 1:00 p.m. at the Middlebury Natatorium. Middlebury will see how its recent successes can measure up to Williams' almost perfect record of 5-0-1 for the men and 6-0 for the women.

# Panthers Take a Pair of Ties in Amherst Doubleheader

By Fritz Parker

In a long-awaited matchup of conference front-runners, Middlebury and Amherst played to a pair of hard-fought ties in their weekend doubleheader on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 16 and 17 in Kenyon Arena. The teams scored two goals apiece on Friday night, before coming back Saturday to tie at one all.

Entering the weekend, the Lord Jeffs held down the top spot in the NESCAC standings by virtue of their unblemished record in conference play. The Panthers, whose only NESCAC loss was by a goal to Trinity in November, sat just behind in second place. Middlebury, meanwhile, held the advantage in the national poll, ranking second while Amherst was ranked ninth.

Middlebury got out to a fast start in Friday's opener with a goal from Carly Watson '17. Watson was assisted by Maddie Winslow '18 and Katie Mandigo '16. Amherst tied it up with a goal four minutes into the second period, but were unable to capitalize on three power-play opportunities later in the period, and went into the final 20 minutes with the score locked at one.

In the third, Amherst finally broke through on the power play to take a one-goal lead midway through the period. Winslow scored the equalizer for Middlebury – with assists from Hannah Bielawski '15 and Mandigo – to force sudden-death overtime.

Neither team was able to score in the extra period, and the game ended in a tie.

The Panthers earned the tie despite

finding themselves on the penalty kill five times in the game, while earning only one power play. Middlebury outshot Amherst 31-28, including a 3-1 shooting advantage in overtime.

Annabelle Jones '15 played the entire 65 minutes in goal for Middlebury, stopping 26 of the 28 shots she faced.

Friday's tie only heightened the pressure for Saturday's match, creating a rubber-match atmosphere inside Kenyon Arena that often is not seen until the postseason.

The Panthers would need all the crowd support they could get, however, as they quickly fell behind and were forced to come back late. After Bielawski went to the box on a tripping call, Lord Jeff skater Erin Martin pushed the puck past Panther senior goalie Maddie Marsh '15 to give her team the early advantage.

The teams traded man-up opportunities during the second period – with the Panthers seeing their first significant power-play time of the weekend – but neither was able to score.

Untimely penalties prevented Middlebury from gaining an advantage as they looked for an equalizer during the third period. Just as things began to look bleak for the Panthers, Jessica Young '18 took a feed from Bielawski and Emily Fluke '15 and buried it in the net to tie the game with less than two minutes remaining.

Amherst failed to convert a power play in extra time, and the final whistle sounded with the score still tied at one.

Middlebury again outshot Amherst in game two, holding a 28-22 advantage in

that category.

The Panthers took an uncharacteristic number of penalties in both games, with 13 over the weekend for 26 penalty minutes.

With the pair of ties, Amherst and Middlebury remained locked in first and second place in the NESCAC. If the current standings hold out for the remainder of the season, hockey fans can expect to see the teams square off during the conference's postseason tournament in late February.

"Amherst has always been one of the

top-ranked NESCAC teams, so it's no surprise that these were competitive games," Fluke said. "We're going to keep moving forward as a team, and it starts with these Bowdoin games."

Middlebury returns to action this weekend, Jan. 23 and 24, for a pair of road matchups with Bowdoin. If there is a team that is capable of breaking up the Amherst-Middlebury grip upon the NESCAC, it is likely the Polar Bears. The Panthers will need to play sharp hockey if they hope to emerge from the weekend with two more wins to their record.



MICHAEL O'HARA

Forward Elizabeth Wulf '18 puts the puck on net during Middlebury's Friday-Saturday doubleheader against NESCAC women's hockey rival Amherst on Jan. 16 and 17.

## EDITORS' PICKS



REMO PLUNKETT (23-15, .605)



FRITZ PARKER (65-61, .515)



ALEX MORRIS (40-39, .506)



JOE MACDONALD (38-45, .457)



EMILY BUSTARD (17-21, .447)

Will Rob Cone '17 win the giant slalom event at this weekend's Vermont Carnival?

YES

Bring it home baby!

NO

It'll be tough to beat some of those UVM skiers on their home course.

YES

Talk about coming back with a bang! Just kidding, I went 1-3...

YES

New pic, gonna bring me some luck. Hang ten, brah.

Will Middlebury women's swimming and diving beat undefeated Williams this Saturday?

NO

I didn't think Ephs could swim, but I guess they can.

NO

Have you seen the Williams swim team...? Hey Midd, if you need anyone to compete for aquajogging, seems I will be aquajogging until the day I die (or until the new track opens, whichever comes first)

NO

Williams swims really fast. They dive well, too.

NO

I'm most worried about Bowdoin on the road on a Sunday, but Midd will pull it out.

NO

The women are sure to have some great performances, but Williams is just too strong to beat.

Will men's basketball lose between now and the next Campus issue (Feb. 12)?

YES

Our next issue is pretty far away, but not sure they can hold on that long.

YES

PATRIOTS  
I'm from Vermont, I don't even know where Seattle is.

The only thing uglier than Joe Mac's new photo is Williams basketball.

YES

Joe Mac's turning into the new Damon with that kind of optimism.

YES

PATRIOTS  
For the sake of some friendships, I'm going with the Patriots.

The team is good, but with seven games between now and the next issue they're bound to slip up at least once.

YES

PATRIOTS  
I'm extremely conflicted about this decision.

SEAHAWKS  
Here's the real question: Is the moustache real, Remo?

PATRIOTS

For the sake of some friendships, I'm going with the Patriots.

PATRIOTS

I'll be enjoying Tom and Bill's coronation from a beachside bar in North Palm Beach, Florida.

# Moving Up

In a complete reversal of last week's disappointment, Jake Brown '17 and the men's basketball team got back into the NESCAC hunt with wins over Wesleyan and Connecticut College.

SEE PAGE 21 FOR FULL COVERAGE.



MICHAEL O'HARA

## Skiers Take Third at Bates Carnival in Season Opener

By Colin McIntyre

The ski teams combined to finish third at the season-opening Bates carnival over the weekend behind winner UVM and runner up Dartmouth. On Friday and Saturday, Jan. 16 and 17, the alpine teams raced at Sunday River, while the nordic teams competed at Black Mountain.

In the men's giant slalom competition on Friday, Rob Cone '17, fresh off a stint on the US national team, won the day with Christopher McKenna '17 a second behind in third place. Ghassan Gedeon-Achi '16 finished 13th to complete the men's GS victory for Middlebury. Cone won the first run by .4 seconds over McKenna, who himself was .75 seconds clear of the next finisher. On the second run, Cone placed third to win the race overall, and McKenna finished 13th, 1.5 seconds back of the run winner, William St-Germain of UVM who edged him for second place overall.

"I was excited for the conditions throughout the weekend," Cone said. "Although temperatures were low or negative, they allowed a great hard, icy snow surface, which all of us enjoy...Otherwise, the sun was up, I kept it simple, skied how I knew I could, and had fun."

The women's alpine team tied with host Bates for fifth in GS, led by Mary Sackbauer '15 who finished 11th. Kara Shaw '15 and Elle Gilbert '16 finished 24th and 25th, respectively. In

Slalom on Saturday, Sackbauer notched a top 10 finish, placing 9th with a combined time of 1:51.20. Shaw placed 18th (1:52.68) and Gilbert 22nd (1:53.66). This performance again gave the women 74 points on the day, good for a 6th place finish in Slalom and overall.

The men placed second in their slalom race. Cone again paced the team, making up a large chunk of time on his second run to come in second place, 0.03 seconds back. McKenna came in 12th place, and Colin Hayes '17 came in 18th.

On Saturday, the nordic teams competed in their classic races. In the women's 15K classic, Heather Mooney '15 finished strong to win the race with a time of 49:33.7, five seconds clear at the top. Kelsey Phinney '16 finished 9th (50:02.7), with Stella Holt '15 rounding out the top 10 with a time of 50:11.3. Middlebury, however, lost out to UVM, and finished second.

The men finished 7th in their 20K classic race on Saturday, with the three scoring members of the Panther squad coming in close to each other. Patrick McElravey '17 came in 27th with a time of 1:02:42.6, Adam Luban '17 (1:02:48.1) came 28th, and Evan Weinman '18 (1:02:50.3) came 30th.

On Saturday, the women skied a 5K skate race. Middlebury won the event, and all three racers placed in the top 10 for the second consecutive day. Mooney again won the race

in 13:52.

"Historically I'm a better classic skier, so it was huge for me to win in the skate race too," Mooney said. "It was a great weekend for the women's team especially. One of our goals was to win a carnival weekend, and we did that, in the first one!"

Mooney was not alone in her success. Middlebury was able to dominate the skate race, with Phinney coming in 5th, 30 seconds behind Mooney, and Holt coming in 10th, 52 seconds back. The Panther women won the skate race overall, and edged UVM and Dartmouth over both days.

The men also improved in the skate race, finishing fifth. Luban lead the team with his first top 10, finishing 9th with a time of 24:55.4, 1:38 behind the winner. McElravey finished 14th in 25:13.2. Jack Steele '16 came in 30th with a time of 26:21.8.

"It's always a relief getting the first weekend out of the way, knowing where we all stand, and in this case, we're stacking up very well in the east," Mooney said.

Next weekend, the EISA carnival circuit heads north to UVM for their winter carnival with races to be held at Stowe.

Cone is excited for the week to come.

"We have a great group of athletes that are pushing each other and building strength every day of training at the Snow Bowl," he said. "This week, we'll continue with our preparations as we look forward to Stowe."

## Men's Hockey Beats Top-Ranked Foes

By Charlie Ascher

The Middlebury men's hockey team had their best showing of the season, displaying a true commitment to defense in their victories over third-ranked Plattsburgh (3-1), and second-ranked Norwich (3-0).

The Panthers started off the weekend on the road with a tough matchup against the Plattsburgh Cardinals on Friday, January 16. Earlier in the season, Plattsburgh beat Middlebury 4-2, but things went differently this time around. The Panthers took the lead 8:49 into the first period when Ronald Fishman '16 scored off a pretty cross-ice pass from Max Greenwald '16. Fishman's goal was, according to Captain George Ordway '15, the goal that "set the tone for the course of both games and [the team] really never stopped working after that goal."

The Panthers then doubled their lead a quarter of the way through the second period when Cameron Romoff '17 fired a quick wrister past the Cardinals' goalie on a pass from Evan Neugold '16. 11 seconds later, Plattsburgh cut the Middlebury lead in half as a puck just barely managed to slip past Stephen Klein '18. Middlebury sealed the game with more exceptional play by special teams. While on the penalty kill, Ordway stole the puck and sniped a shot glove side to give Middlebury the 3-1 lead. Klein stopped 19 of 20 Plattsburgh shots to pick up his fourth win of the season, while

Middlebury outshot Plattsburgh 22-20.

On Saturday, Jan. 17, the Panthers squared off against the Norwich Cadets. After an early chance by Norwich went off the pipe less than a minute into the first period, Middlebury took control. Just 30 seconds after Norwich's missed opportunity, Mike Najjar '17 dished a pass to Ordway from behind the net and Ordway rifled it in on a one-timer.

From then on, Middlebury continued to dominate the period, keeping the Cadets' offense at bay by outshooting them 11-5. Middlebury's efforts paid off three quarters through the first period, when Brendan McGovern '16 grabbed a loose puck in the Norwich slot, made a quick move to the left, and shot it past the Norwich goalie. A packed Kenyon Arena went crazy.

After killing off a Norwich power play and failing to convert on a power play of their own, the Panthers struck again 12:25 into the second period. Zach Haggerty '16 won a puck battle along the boards and found Greg Conrad '17 in front of the goal. Conrad stuffed it in for his second goal of the year to seal Middlebury's 3-0 lead.

The third period proved a stressful one as Norwich went on the attack, looking to come back from their three-goal deficit. Middlebury goalie Klein was up to the task as he made

SEE MEN'S HOCKEY, PAGE 21

